

# ADVENTURES

OF

# PEREGRINE PICKLE.

In which are included,

MEMOIRS

OFA

LADY OF QUALITY.

IN FOUR VOLUMES.

VOLUME IV.

Respicere exemplar vite morumque jubebo

Doftum imitatorem, & veras hinc ducere voces.

Hor.

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# PEREGRINE PICKLE.

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Peregrine receives a letter from Hatchway, in consequence of which, he repairs to the garrifon, and performs the last offices to his aunt. He is visited by Mr Gauntlet, who invites him to his marriage.

N this circle of amusements our hero's time was parcelled out, and a few young gentlemen of the age enjoyed life with greater relish, not withstanding those intervening checks of reason, which served only to what his appetite for a re-

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petition of the pleasures he so prudently condemned; when he received the following letter, by which he was determined to visit his estate in the country:

### COUSIN PICKLE,

T Hope you are in a better trim than your annt,. who bath been fast moored to her bed thefe feven weeks by feveral feet of under-water logging in her hold and hollop, whereby I doubt her planks are rotted, fo as the cannot chuse but fall to pieces in a short time. I have done all in my power to keep her tight and easy, and free from sudden squalls that might overstrain her. here have been the doctors, who have skuttled. her lower deck, and let out fix gallons of water. For my own part, I wonder how the devil it came there; for you know as how it was a liquor the never took in. But, as for these fellows the doctors, they are like unfkilful carpenters, that in mending one leak, make a couple; and fo the fills again apace. But the world fign of all is this here, she won't let a drop of Nantz go betwixt the combings of her teeth, and has quite" loft the rudder of her understanding, whereby she yaws woundily in her speech, palavering about: some foreign part called the New Geereusalem, and wishing herself in a safe birth in the river Geordon. The parson, I must say, strives to



keep her steady, concerning the navigation of her foul, and talks very fenfibly of charity and the poor, whereof the hath left a legacy of two hundred pounds in her will. And here has been Mr Gamaliel and your brother, my lord, demanding entrance at the gate, in order to fee her; but I would not suffer them to come aboard, and pointed my patereroes which made them fleer off. Your fifter Mrs Clover keeps close watch upon her kinfwoman, without ever turning in, and a kind hearted young woman it is. I should be glad to fee you at the garrison, if the wind of your inclination fits that way; and mayhap it may be a comfort to your aunt, to behold you along-fide of her when her anchor is apeak. So no more at prefent, but refts whom the last maintained any in mice of cur-

# Your friend

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And humble Servant to command,

nation, being by this time, ferried are a con-

IN OTHER MEDICINA AND JOHN HATCHWAY. new dismined by the boungery people with the pe-

sellation of the young father the fifth of the to the Next morning, after the receipt of this epiftle. Peregrine, in order to manifest his regard to his aunt, as well as his friendship for honest Jack. fet out on horseback for their habitation, attended by Pipes, who longed to fee his old mess-mate; but before he reached the garrison, Mrs Hatchway had given up the ghost, in the threescore and

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fifth year of her age. The widower feemed to bear his loss with resignation, and behaved very decently upon the oceasion, though he did not undergo those dangerous transports of sorrow, which some tender hearted husbands have felt at the departure of their wives. The lieutenant was naturally a philosopher, and so well disposed to acquiesce in the dispensations of providence, that in this, as well as in every other emergency of his life, he simply believed that every thing which happened was for the best.

Peregrine's talk, therefore, was not fo great in comforting him, as in confoling his own fifter, who with great poignancy and fincerity of grief, lamented the death of the only relation with whom she had maintained any intimacy of correspondence; for her mother was as implacable as ever, in her enmity against her and Peregrine, and rather more determined in her rancour, that which was originally a fudden transport of indignation, being by this time, fettled into a confirmed inveteracy of hate. As for Gam, who was now dignified by the country people with the appellation of the young fquire, he still acted in the capacity of minister to the caprice and vengeance of his mother, taking all opportunities of diffurbing Julia's peace, flandering her reputation, and committing outrages against the tenants and domeltics of her hufband, who was a man of a quiet and timorous disposition. way, had given by the gholt, the feethere

But the chief amusement of young Pickle, in his later years, was the chace, in which he acquired some renown by his intrepidity and remarkable figure, which improved every day in deformity, infemuch, as to fuggest a ludicrous Scheme of revenge to a gentleman in the neighbourhood. Having been affronted by the infolence of Crookback, he cloathed a large baboon that was in his possession, in a dress that resembled the hunting equipage of Gam; and ordering the animal to be fet aftride, and tied upon the back of his keenest hunter, turned them out one day after the hounds. The horse in a little time outstripping all the rest in the field, the rider was mistaken for Gam by the whole company, who faluted him as he passed with a hollow, obferving that the squire had his usual good luck. in being better mounted than his neighbours. Pickle afterwards appearing in his own person. created great aftonishment in the speciators, one of whom asked, if he had split himself in twain, and pointed out his representative, who was by this time almost up with the hounds : upon which the identical Gam went in pursuit of the impostor. When he overtook him he was fo much enraged at the counterfeit, that he attacked the baboon whip in hand, and, in all probability. would have facrificed him to his refentment, had not he been prevented by the other fox-hunters. They interposed, in order to make up the difference betwixt two brothers of the sport, and were

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were equally furprifed and diverted, when they distinguished the quality of Crookback's antagonish, which they rescued from his rage, and re-

conveyed to its master.

Peregrine, at the request of his friend Jack, took charge of his aunt's funeral, to which his parents were invited, though they did not think proper to appear, or pay the least regard to his folicitations, when he defired permission to wait upon them in person. Nevertheless, old Gamaliel, at the infligation of his wife, afterwards obtained an orderfrom Doctor's Commons, obliging Hatchway to produce the will of his wife, on the Supposition that she had bequeathed to him some part of the money which (he knew) was at her own disposal. But from this step he reaped no other fatisfaction than that of finding himself altogether neglected by the testatrix, who had left all her affects to her husband, except one thousand pounds, with her jewels, to Julia's daughter, the benefaction mentioned in the lieutenant's letter. and fome inconsiderable legacies to her favourite domestics.

A few days after the interment of this good lady, our hero was agreeably surprised with a visit from his friend Godfrey, who had come to England in consequence of that promotion which he owed to his interest, though the soldier himself placed it to the credit of a certain courtier who had formerly promised to befriend him, and now finding his advancement unowned, very

modefly arrogated the merit of it to himself. He communicated his good fortune to Pickie, who complimented him upon it as an event of which he had no precognition, and at the same time told him, that, in consequence of his preferment, his cousin at Windsor had consented to his being immediately united in the bands of wedlock with his lovely Sophy; that the weddingday was already fixed; and that nothing would be wanting to his happiness, if Peregrine would honour the nuptials with his presence.

Our hero accepted the invitation with great eagerness, when he learned that Emilia would be there in quality of bride's maid; and now repeated what he had formerly written to his friend, namely, that he was not only willing, but extremely impatient to atone for his mad behaviour to that young lady, by laying himself and his whole fortune at her feet. Godfrey thanked him for his honourable intention, and promifed to use his influence, and that of Sophy, in his behalf, the' he feemed dubique of their success, on account of his lifter's delicacy, which could not pardon the least shadow of difrespect. He owned, indeed, he was not certain that the would appear in the fame company with Pickle; but as she had made no stipulations on that score, he would interpret her filence in the most favourable manner. and keep her in ignorance of his delign, until the should find it too late to retract with any decency. The hope of feeing and converting with

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Emilia, and perhaps of being reconciled to her, after having suffered so much and so long from her displeasure, raised a tumult of ideas in his breast, and produced a strange inquietude of joy and perturbation. Gauntlet having stayed with him a few days, and signified the time appointed for his spousals, took his leave, in order to prepare for the occasion; while Peregrine, with his friend Hatchway, made a tour among his acquaintance in the country, with a view of sounding their inclinations touching a project which he had lately conceived, of offering himself as a candidate for a certain borough in the neighbourhood, at the ensuing election for members of parliament.

This scheme, which was suggested to him by one of his quality patrons, would have succeeded according to his wish, had the election taken place immediately; but before that happened, his interest was overbalanced by some finall accidents that will be recorded in the fequel. In the mean time, he repaired to Windfor on the eve of his friend's marriage, and understood from Godfrey, that it was with the utmost difficulty he and Sophy could prevail upon his fifter to be prefent at the wedding, when the was informed that her lover was invited; and that her confent had not been obtained until they had promifed, on the part of Peregrine, that he should not renew the old topic, nor even fpeak to her in the ftyle of a former acquaintance.

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Our young gentleman was nettled at this preliminary, to which, however, he faid he would adhere; and so well did he think himself fortified with pride and refentment, that he refolved to behave towards her with fuch indifference, as would, he hoped, mortify her vanity, and thereby punish her for the implacability of her difposition. Armed with these sentiments, he was next day introduced by Godfrey to the bride. who received him with her usual sweetness of temper and affability; and Emilia being prefent, he faluted her with a diffant bow, which he acknowledged with a cold court'fy, and an afpect of ice. Though this deportment confirmed his difpleafure. her beauty undermined his refolution; he thought her charms were infinitely improved fince their last parting, and a thousand fond images recurring to his imagination, he felt his whole foul diffolying into tenderness and love.

In order to banish those dangerous ideas, he endeavoured to enter into a gay conversation with Sophy, on the subject of the approaching eremony; but his tongue performed its office aukwardly, his eyes were attracted towards E-milia, as if they had been subject to the power of fascination; in spite of all his efforts, a deep sight escaped from his bosom, and his whole appearance indicated anxiety and confusion.

The bridegroom, perceiving his condition, abridged the visit, and having conducted his companion to his own lodgings, expressed his concern

at having been the innocent occasion of his uneafinels, by exposing him to the fight of Emilia, which he perceived had given him pain. Peregrine, who had by this time recollected the dictates of his pride, affured him, that he was very much mistaken in the cause of his diforder, which was no other than a fudden qualm, to which he had been for sometime subject; and to shew him how philosophically he could bear the disdain of Emilia, which, with all deference to her conduct, hecould not help thinking a little too fevere, he defired, as the bridegroom had made preparation for a private ball in the evening, that he would provide him with an agreeable partner; in which case he would exhibit undoubted proofs of the tranquillity of his heart. "I was in hopes (anfwered Godfrey) of being able, with the affiftance of Sophy, to make up matters between you and my fifter, and for that reason kept her unengaged to any other gentleman for the night; but fince the was so previally obstinate, I shall take care to accommodate you with a very handsome young lady, whose partner will not be forry to exchange her for Emilia."

The thoughts of having an opportunity to coquet with another woman, under the eye of this implacable mistress, supported his spirits during the ceremony, which put Gauntlet in possession of his heart's desire; and, by means of this cordial, he found himself so undisturbed at dinner, though he sat opposite to his fair enemy, that he was

able to pass fome occasional jokes upon the new married couple, with fome appearance of mirth and good humour. Nor did Emily any otherwife feem affected by his prefence, than by excepting him from the participation of those genial regards which the distributed to the rest of the company. This eafiness of behaviour on her side. reinforced his resolution, by giving him pretence to call her fensibility in question; for he could not conceive how any woman of acute feeling could fir unmoved, in prefence of a man with whom the had fuch recent and intimate connexion; not confidering, that she had much more reason to condemn his affectation of unconcern, and that her external deportment might, like his own, be an effort of pride and refentment.

This contest, in point of dissimulation, continued till night, when the company was paired for dancing, and Peregrine began the ball by walking a minuet with the bride; then he took out the young lady to whom he was recommended by Gauntlet, being very well pleased to see that her person was such as might have inspired even Emily herself with jealousy, though, at the same time, he perceived his mistress coupled with a gay young officer, whom (with all due deserence to his own qualifications) he considered as no despicable rival. However, he himself first began hostilities, by becoming all of a sudden particular with his partner, whom he forthwith as failed with flattering compliments, that soon in-

pariated with great art and elecution, using not only the faculty of speech, but also the language of the eyes, in which he was a perfect conneitieur.

This behaviour foon manifested itself to the whole assembly, the greatest part of whom believed that he was in good earnest captivated by the charms of his partner, while Emilia penetrating into his delign, turned his own artislery upon himself, by seeming to listen with pleasure to the addresses of his rival, who was no novice in the art of making love: the even affected uncommon vivacity, and giggled aboud at every whisper which he conveyed into her ear, infomuch that she, in her turn, afforded speculation to the company, who imagined the young soldier had made a conquest of the bridegroom's lister.

Pickle himself began to cherish the same opinion, which gradually invaded his good humour, and, at length, filled his boson with rage. He shows to suppress his indignation, and called every consideration of vanity and revenge to his aid: he endeavoured to wear his eyes from the satal object that disturbed him, but they would not obey his direction and command; he wished himself deprived of all sensation, when he heard her laugh and saw her smile upon the officer; and, in the course of country dancing, when he was obliged to join bands with her, the touch thrill'd through all his nerves, and kindled a stame within him which he could not contain. In a word,

his endeavours to conceal the situation of his thoughts, were so violent, that his constitution could not endure the shock; the sweat ran down his forehead in a stream, the colour vanished from his cheeks, his knees began to totter, and his eyesight to fail: so that he must have fallen at his full length upon the stoor, had not he retired very abruptly into another room, where he threw himself upon a couch and fainted.

In this condition he was found by his friend. who feeing him withdraw with fuch symptoms of diforder, followed him thither; and when he recovered the use of his faculties, pressed him to make use of a bed in that house, rather than expose himself in the night air, by going home to his own lodgings; but not being able to prevail upon him to accept the offer, he wrapped him up in a cloak, and conducted him to the inn where he lodged, helped him to undress and go to bed, where he was immediately feized with a violent fit of the ague. Godfrey behaved with great tenderness, and would have actually bore him company all night, not withstanding the circumstances of his own situation, had not his friend infifted upon his returning to the company, and making his apology to his partner for his fudden departure.

This was a step absolutely necessary towards maintaining the quiet of the assembly, which he found in great consternation, occasioned by his absence; for some of the ladies seeing the bride-

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groom follow the stranger in his retreat, the meaning of which they did not comprehend, began to be afraid of a quarrel. Emilia, upon pretence of that supposition, was so much alarmed, that she could not stand, and was fain to have recourse to a smelling bottle.

The bride, who understood the whole mystery, was the only person that acted with deliberation and composure; the imputed Emilia's disorder to the right cause, which was no other than concern for the condition of her lover, and affured the ladies there was nothing extraordinary in Mr Pickle's going off, he being subject to fainting fits, by which he was often overtaken without any previous notice. The arrival of Gauntlet confirmed the truth of this declaration : he made an apology to the company, in the name of his friend, who, he told them, was fuddenly taken ill; and they returned to their divertion of daneing with this variation, Emilia, was fo difordered and fatigued, that the begged to be excused from continuing the exercise; and Peregrine's parener being difengaged, was paired with the young officer for whom the was originally defiguwhich is not a substitute of the state of th

Mean while, the bride withdrew into another apartment, with her fifter, and expostulated with her upon her cruelty to Mr Pickle, affuring her from Godfrey's information, that he had undergone a severe sit on her account, which, in all likelihood, would, have a dangerous effect

upon his constitution. Though Emily was inflexible in her answers to the kind remonstrances of the gentle Sophy, her heart was melting with the impressions of pity and love; and finding herself unable to perform the duty of her function, in putting the bride to bed, she retired to her own chamber, and, in secret, sympathized with the distemper of her lover.

In the morning as early as decency would permit him to leave the arms of his dear wife, captain Gauntlet made a visit to Peregrine, who had paffed a very tedious and uneafy night, having been subject to thort intervals of delirium, during which Pipes had found it very difficult to keep him fall belayed. He owned indeed to Godfrey, that his imagination had been haunted by the ideas of Emilia and her officer, which tormented him to an unspeakable degree of anguish and diffraction; and that he would rather fuffer death than a repetition of fach excreciating reflections. He was, however, comforted by his friend, who affured him, that his fifter's inclinations would, in time, prevail over all the endeavours of refentment and pride, illustrating this affeveration by an account of the manner in which the was affected by the knowledge of his diforder, and advising him to implore the mediation of Sophy, in a letter which she should communicate to Emilia.

This was an opportunity which our hero shought too favourable to be neglected; calling bed wovel her warpy he conflorence soit

DEAR MADAM,

THE affliction of a contrite heart can never appeal to your benevolence in vain, and therefore I presume to approach you, in this season of delight, with the language of forrow, requesting that you will espouse the cause of an unhapby lover, who mourns with unutterable anguish over his ruined hope, and intercede for my pardon with that divine creature, whom, in the intemperance and excess of passion, I have so mortally offended. Good heaven! is my guilt inexpiable? Am lexcluded from all hope of remission? Am I devoted to misery and despair? I have offered all the atonement which the most perfect and sincere penitence could fuggeft, and fhe rejects my hum? lity and repentance. If her refentment would pursue me to the grave, let her signify her pleafure; and may I be branded with the name of villain, and remembered with infamy and detestaation to all posterity, if I hesitate one moment in facrificing a life whch is odious to Emilia. Ah! Madam, while I thus pour forth the effusions of my grief and distraction, I look around the apartment in which I lye, and every well known object that falutes my view, recals to my remembrance that fond, that happy day, on which the fair, the good, the tender hearted Sophy became my advocate, though I was a stranger to her acquaintance, and effected a transporting reconciliation between me and that same inchanting beauty, that is now so implacably incensed. If she is not satisfied with the pange of remorse and disappointment, the transports of madness I have undergone; let her prescribe what farther penance she thinks I ought to endure; and when I decline her sentence, let me be the object of her eternal disdain.

I commit myfelf, dear madam! dear Sophy! dear partner of my friend! to your kind interposition. I know you will manage my cause, as a concern on which my happiness entirely depends; and I hope every thing from your compaffion and beneficence, while I fear every thing from her rigour and barbarity. Yes! I call it barbarity, a savageness of delicacy altogether inconfistent with the tenderness of human nature: and may the most abject contempt be my portion if I live under its scourge ! But I begin to rave. I conjure you by your own humanity and fweetness of disposition, I conjure you by your love for the man whom heaven bath decreed your protector, to employ your influence with that angel of wrath, in behalf of

Your obliged and Obedient fervant,

P. PICKLE.

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Thus folicited, fhe could not refuse to hear the letter, which when he had repeated, she lamented her own fate in being the occasion of fo much uneasiness, desired her brother to affure Mr Pickle, that the was not a voluntary enemy to his peace; on the contrary, she wished him all happiness, tho' she hoped he would not blame her for confulting her own, in avoiding any future explanation or connexion with a person whose correspondence she found herself, under a necessi-

ty to renounce.

In vain did the new married couple exhaust their eloquence in attempting to prove, that the reparation which our hero had offered was adequate to the injury she had sustained; that in reconciling herself to a penitent lover, who subferibed to her own terms of submission, her honour would be acquitted by the most scrupulous and severe judges of decorum; and that her inflexibility would be justly ascribed to the pride and insensibility of her heart. She turned a deaf ear to all their arguments, exhortations and intreaties, and threatened to leave the house immediately, if they would not promise to drop that subject of discourse.

Godfrey, very much chagrined at the bad fuccefs of his endeavours, returned to his friend,
and made as favourable a report of the affair,
as the nature of his conversation with Emilia
would permit: but as he could not avoid mentioning her resolution in the close, Peregrine was obliged to drink again the bitter draught of disappointment, which pur his passions into such a
state of agitation, as produced a short extasy of
despair, in which he acted a thousand extravagancies. This paroxysin, however, soon subsided into a settled reserve of gloomy resentment,
which he in secret indulged, detaching himself as
soon as possible from the company of the soldier,
on pretence of retiring to rest.

While he lay ruminating upon the circumstances of his present situation, his friend Pipes, who

knew the cause of his anxiety, and firmly believed that Emilia loved his master in her heart. howfoever fhe might attempt to difguife her fentiments; I fay, Thomas was taken with a conceit which he thought would fet every thing to rights, and therefore put it in execution without farther delay. Laying aside his hat, he ran directly to the house of Sophy's father, and affecting an air of furprise and consternation, to which he had never before been subject, thundered at the door with fuch an alarming knock, as in a moment brought the whole family into the hall. he was admitted, he began to gape, stare, and pant at the same time, and made no reply, when Godfrey asked what was the matter, till Mrs. Gauntlet expressed her apprehensions about his master. When Pickle's name was mentioned, he feemed to make an effort to fpeak, and in a bellowing tone pronounced, " Brought himself up, fplit my top-fails !" So faying, he pointed to his own neck, and rose upon his tiptoes, by way of explaining the meaning of his words.

Godfrey, without staying to ask another question, rashed out, and slew towards the inn, with the utmost horror and concern; while Sophy, who did not rightly understand the language of the messenger, addressing herself to him a second time, said, with great earnestness, "I hope no accident has happened to Mr Pickle!" "No accident at all, (replied Tom) he has only hanged himself for love." These words had scarce pro-

listening at the parlour door, shrieked aloud, and dropped down senseless upon the floor; while her sister, who was almost equally shocked at the intelligence, had recourse to the assistance of her maid, by whom she was supported from falling.

Pipes hearing Emily's voice, congratulated himself upon the success of his stratagem. He sprung to her assistance, and listing her up into an easy-chair, stood by her, until he saw her recover from her swoon, and heard her call upon his master's name, with all the frenzy of despairing love. Then he bent his course back to the inn, overjoyed at the opportunity of telling Peregrine what a confession he had extorted from his mistress, and extremely vain of this proof of his own fagacity.

In the mean time, Godfrey arriving at the house; in which he supposed this satal catastrophe had happened, ran up stairs to Peregrine's chamber, without staying to make any inquiry below; and finding the door locked, burst it open with one stroke of his foot. But what was his amazement, when, upon entrance, our hero starting up from the bed, saluted him with a boisterous exclamation of "Z—ds who's there?" He was struck dumb with associations, which also rivetted him to the place where he stood, scarce crediting the testimony of his own senses, till Peregrine, with an air of discontent which denoted him displeased with his intrusion, dispelled his ap-

prehension by a second adddress, saying, "I see you consider me as a friend, by your using me without ceremony."

The foldier, thus convinced of the falfehood of the information he had received, began to imagine, that Pickle had projected the plan which was executed by his fervant; and looking upon it as a piece of unjustifiable finesse, which might be attended with very melancholy consequences to his fister or wife, he answered in a supercilious tone, that Mr Pickle must blame himself for the interruption of his repose, which was entirely owing to the forry jest he had set on foot.

Pickle, who was the child of passion, and more than half mad with impatience before this visit, hearing himself treated in such a cavalier manner, advanced close up to Godfrey's breast, and assuming a ftern, or rather frantic countenance, "Heark ye, Sir, (faid he) you are mistaken if you think I jest; I am in downright earnest, I affure you." Gauntlet, who was not a man to be brow-beatens feeing himself thus bearded by a person of whose conduct he had, he thought, reason to complain, put on his military look of defiance, and erecting his cheff, replied with an exalted voice, " Mr Pickle, whether you was in jest or earnest, you must give me leave to tell you, that the scheme was childish, unseasonable, and unkind, not to give it any harsher term." " Death, Sir, (cried our adventurer) you trifle with my disquiet; if there is any meaning in your infinuation, explain yourfelf, and then I shall know what answer it will besit me to give." "I came with very different sentiments (resumed the soldier) but since you urge me to expossulation, and behave with such unprovoked lostiness of displeasure, I will, without circumlocution, tax you with having committed an outrage upon the peace of my samily, in sending your fellow to alarm us with such an abrupt account of your having done violence upon yoursels." Peregrine, consounded at this imputation, stood silent, with a most savage aspect of surprise, eager to know the circumstance to which his accuser alluded, and incensed to find it beyond the sphere of his comprehension.

While these two irritated friends stood fronting each other with mutual indignation in their eyes and attitudes, they were joined by Pipes, who, without taking the least notice of the situation in which he sound them, told his master, that he might up with the top-gallant masts of his heart, and out with his rejoicing pendants; for as to mistress Emily, he had clapt her helm a-weather, the vessel wore, and now she was upon the other tack, standing right into the harbour of his

good-will.

Peregrine, who was not a connoisseur in the terms of his lacquey, commanded him upon pain of his displeasure to be more explicit in his intelligence; and by dint of divers questions, obtaining a perfect knowledge of the scheme which he had put in execution for his service. This infor-

mation perplexed him not a little; he would have chastised his servant upon the spot, for his temerity, had he not plainly perceived, that the fellow's intention was to promote his ease and satisfaction; and on the other hand, he knew not how to acquit himself of the suspicion which he faw Godfrey entertain of his being the projector of the plan, without condescending to an explanation, which his present disposition could not brook. After fome paufe, however, turning to Pipes with a fevere frown, "Rascal! (said he) this is the second time I have suffered in the opinion of that lady by your ignorance and prefumption; if ever you intermeddle in my affairs for the future, without express order and direction, by all that's facred, I will put you to death without mercy. Away, and let my horse be sadled this instant." congathede

Pipes having withdrawn, in order to perform this piece of duty, our young gentleman, addreffing himself again to the soldier, and laying his hand upon his breast, said with a solemnity of regard, "Captain Gauntlet, upon my honour, I am altogether innocent of that shallow device which you impute to my invention; and I don't think you do justice, either to my intellects or honour, in supposing me capable of such insolent absurdity. As for your sister, I have once in my life affronted her in the madness and impetuosity of desire; but I have made such acknowledgments, and offered such atonement, as sew women of

her sphere would have refused; and, before God, I am determined to endure every torment of disappointment and despair, rather than prostrate myself again to the cruelty of her unjustifiable pride. So saying, he stalked suddenly down stairs, and took horse immediately, his spirits being supported by resentment, which prompted him to vow within himself, that he would seek consolation for the disdain of Emilia, in the possession of the first willing wench he should meet upon the road.

While he fet out for the garrison with these sentiments, Gauntlet in a suspence between anger, shame, and concern, returned to the house of his father-in-law, where he found his sister still violently agitated from the news of Peregrine's death, the mystery of which he forthwith unravelled, recounting at the same time the particulars of the conversation which had happened at the inn, and describing the demeanour of Pickle with some expressions of asperity, which were neither agreeable to Emilia, nor approved by the gentle Sophy, who tenderly chid him for allowing Peregrine to depart in terms of misunder-standing.

### CHAP. LXXXVII.

Peregrine sets out for the garrison, and meets with a nymph on the road, whom he takes into keeping, and metamorphoses into a fine lady.

IN the mean time, our hero jogged along in a profound reverie, which was disturbed by a

beggar-woman and her daughter, who folicited him for alms, as he passed them on the road. The girl was about the age of fixteen, and notwithstanding the wretched equipage in which she appeared, exhibited to his view a fet of agreeable features, enlivened with the complexion of health and chearfulness. The resolution I have already mentioned was fill warm in his imagination; and he looked upon this young mendicant as a very proper object for the performance of his vow, He therefore entered into a conference with the mother, and for a small sum of money purchased her property in the wench, who did not require much courtship and intreaty before she confented to accompany him to any place that he should appoint for her habitation.

This contract being fettled to his fatisfaction, he ordered Pipes to fet his acquisition behind him upon the crupper, and alighting at the first public-house which they found upon the road, he wrote a letter to Hatchway, desiring him to receive this hedge inamorata, and direct her to be cleaned and cloathed in a decent manner, with all expedition, so that she should be touchable upon his arrival, which (on that account) he would defer for the space of one day. This billet, together with the girl, he committed to the charge of Pipes, after having laid strong injunctions upon him to abstain from all attempts upon her chastity, and ordered him to make the best of his way to the garrison, while he himself crossed the country to

a market-town, where he proposed to spend the night.

Tom, thus cautioned, proceeded with his charge, and being naturally taciturn, opened not his lips until he had performed the best half of his journey. But Thomas, notwithstanding his irony appearance, was in reality composed of slesh and blood. His desire being titillated by the contact of a buxome wench, whose right arm embraced his middle as he rode, his thoughts began to mutiny against his master, and he found it almost impossible to withstand the temptation of making love.

Nevertheless, he wrestled with these rebellious fuggestions with all the reason that Heaven had enabled him to exert; and that being totally overcome, his victorious passion suddenly broke out in this address. " Sblood! a believe mafter think I have no more stuff in my body than a dried haddock, to turn me adrift in the dark with fuch a spanker. D'ye think he don't, my dear?" To this question his fellow-traveller reply'd, Swanker! Annan!" And the lover refumed his fuit, faying, "Oons! how you tickle my timber! Something shoots from your arm, through my stowage, to the very keel-stone. Han't you got quickfilver in your hand?" " Quickfilver ! (faid the lady) D-n the filver that has croffed my hand this month. D'ye think if I had filver, I fhouldn't buy me a fmock?" " Adfoocks! ye baggage (cried the lover) you shouldn't want a

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knock nor a petticoat neither, if you could have a kindness for a true heart ed failor, as found and as strong as a nine-inch cable, that would keep all clear above board, and every thing fnug under the hatches." " Curse your gum (faid the charmer) what's your gay balls and your hatches to me?" " Do but let us bring too a little, (anfwered the wooer, whose appetite was by this time whetted to a most ravenous degree) and I'll teach you to box the compass, my dear. Ah! you strapper, what a jolly bitch you are!" " Bitch (exclaimed this modern Dulcinea, incenfed at the opprobrious term) fuch a bitch as your mother, you dog. D-n ye, I've a good mind to box your jaws instead of your comepifs. I'll let you know as how I am meat for your master. you faucy blackguard. You are worfe than a dog, you old flinty-faced, flea-bitten fcrub: a dog wears his own coat, but you wear your mafter's."

Such a torrent of disgraceful epithets from a person who had no cloaths at all, converted the gallant's love into choler, and he threatened to dismount and seize her to a tree, when she should have a taste of his cat and nine tails athwart her quarters; but, instead of being intimidated by his menaces, she set him at desiance, and held forth with such a flow of eloquence, as would have entitled her to a considerable share of reputation, even among the nymphs of Billingsgate; for this young lady, over and above a natural genius

for altercation, had her talents cultivated among the venerable fociety of weeders, podders, and hoppers, with whom the had affociated from her tender years. No wonder then, that she soon obtained a complete victory over Pipes, who, (as the reader may have observed) was very little addicted to the exercise of speech; indeed he was utterly disconcerted by her volubility of tongue; and being altogether unfurnished with answers to the distinct periods of her discourse, very wifely chose to fave himself the expence of breath and argument, by giving her a full fwing of cable, so that she might bring herself up; while he rode onwards, in filent composure, without taking any more notice of his fair fellow-traveller than if she had been his master's clock bag.

In spite of all the dispatch he could make, it was late before he arrived at the garrison, where he delivered the letter and the lady to the lieutenant, who no sooner understood the intention of his friend, than he ordered all the tubs in the house to be carried into the hall and filled with water. Tom having provided himself with swabs and brushes, divested the fair stranger of her variegated drapery, which was immediately committed to the slames, and performed upon her soft and sleek person the ceremony of scrubbing as it is practised on board of the king's ships of war. Yet the nymph herself did not submit to this purisication without repining: she curs'd the director, who was upon the spot, with many

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abusive allusions to his wooden leg; and as for Pipes, the operator, she employed her talons so effectually upon his face, that the blood ran over his nofe in fundry ftreams; and next morning, when those rivulets were dry, his countenance refembled the rough bark of a plumb-tree plaistered with gum. Nevertheless, he did his duty with great perseverance, cut off her hair close to the scalp, handled his brushes with dexterity. applied his fwabs of different magnitude and texture as the case required, and lastly, rinsed the whole body with a dozen pails of cold water difcharged upon her head.

These ablutions being executed, he dried her with towels, accommodated her with a clean shift, and acting the part of a valet de chambre, cloathed her from head to foot in clean and decent apparel which had belonged to Mrs Hatchway; by which means her appearance was altered fo much for the better, that when Peregrine arrived next day, he could fcarce believe his own eyes. He was, for that reason, extremely well-pleased with his purchase, and now resolved to indulge a whim which seized him at the very instant of his arrival.

He had (as I believe the reader will readily allow) made confiderable progress in the study of character, from the highest rank to the most humble station of life, and found it diversified in the fame manner, through every degree of subordination and precedency : nay, he moreover observed, that the conversation of those who are dignified with the appellation of politecompany, is neither more edifying nor entertaining than that which is met with among the lower classes of mankind; and that the only essential difference in point of demeanor, is the form of an education which the meanest capacity can acquire without much study or application. Possessed of this notion, he determined to take the young mendicant under his own tutorage and instruction. In consequence of which he hoped he should, in a few weeks, be able to produce her in company, as an accomplished young lady, of uncommon wit and an excellent understanding.

This extravagant plan he forthwith began to execute with great eagerness and industry; and his endeavours succeeded even beyond his expec-The obstacle, in surmounting of which he found the greatest difficulty, was an inveterate habit of swearing, which had been indulged from her infancy, and confirmed by the example of those among whom she had lived. However, she had the rudiments of good fense from nature, which taught her to listen to wholesome advice, and was fo docile as to comprehend and retain the lessons which her governor recommended to her attention; infomuch, that he ventured in a few days to prefent her at table among a fet of country squires, to whom she was introduced as niece to the lieutenant. In that capacity she fat with becoming eafiness of mien, (for she was as void of the mauvaise honte as any durches in the land) bowed very graciously to the compliments of the gentlemen; and though she said little or nothing, because she was previously cautioned on that score, she more than once gave way to laughter, and her mirth happened to be pretty well timed. In a word, she attracted the applause and admiration of the guests, who, after she was withdrawn, complimented Mr Hatchway upon the beauty, breeding, and good humour of his kinstwoman.

But what contributed more than any other circumstance to her speedy improvement, was some fmall inlight into the primer, which she had acquired at a day school, during the life of her father, who was a day-labourer in the country. Upon this foundation did Peregrine build an elegant fuperflructure; he culled out choice fentences from Shakespear, Otway, and Pope, and taught her to repeat them with an emphasis and theatrical cadence: he then instructed her in the names and epithets of the most celebrated players, which he directed her to pronounce occasionally, with an air of careless familiarity; and perceiving that her voice was naturally clear, he enriched it with remnants of opera tunes, to be hummed during a paule of conversation, which is generally supplied with the circulation of a pinch of fnuff. By means of this cultivation, she became a wonderful proficient in the polite graces of the age; the, with great facility, comprehended the scheme of whift, though cribbage was her favourite game, with which she had amused herself in her vacant hourse from her first entrance into the profession of hopping; and brag soon grew familiar to her practice and conception.

Thus prepared, the was exposed to the company of her own fex, being first of all visited by the parfon's daughter, who could not avoid shewing that civility to Mr Hatchway's niece, after the had made her public appearance at church. Mrs Clover, who had a great share of penetration, could not help entertaining some doubts about this same relation, whose name she had never heard the uncle mention during the whole term of her residence at the garrison: but as the young lady was treated in that character, she would not refuse her acquaintance, and after having feen her at the castle, actually invited Miss Hatchway to her house. In short, she made a progress thro' almost all the families in the neighbourhood; and, by dint of her quotations (which, by-the-bye, were not always judiciously used) she passed for a sprightly young lady, of uncommon learning and tafte.

Peregrine having in this manner initiated her in the beau-monde of the country, conducted her to London, where she was provided with private lodgings and a female attendant; and put her immediately under the tuition of his valet de chamber, who had orders to instruct her in dancing and the French language. He attended her to

plays and concerts, three or four times a week : and when our hero thought her fufficiently acenflomed to the fight of great company, he fquired her in person to a public assembly, and danced with her among all the gay ladies of fathion : not but that there was still an evident air of rufticity and aukwardness in her demeanour, which was interpreted into an agreeable wildness of spirit, Superior to the forms of common breeding. He afterwards found means to make her acquainted with some distinguished patterns of her own fex, by whom the was admitted into the most elegant parties, and continued to make good her pretensions to gentility with great circumspections But one evening, being at cards with a certain lady whom the detected in the very fact of unfair. conveyance, the taxed her roundly with the fraud, and brought upon herfelf fuch a torrent of farcallic reproof, as overbore all her maxims of caution, and burit open the floodgates of her own natural repartee, twanged off with the appellation of b- and w- which the repeated with great vehemence, in an attitude of manual defiance, to the terror of her antagonist, and the astonishment of all present : nay, to such an unguard. ed pitch was she provoked, that, flarting up, she fnapt her fingers, in testimony of disdain, and, as the quitted the room, applied her hand to that part which was the last of her that disappeared, inviting the company to kiss it, by one of its coarsest denominations.

Peregrine was a little disconcerted at this everfight in her behaviour, which, by the dæmon of intelligence; was in a moment conveyed to all the private companies in town : fo that she was absolutely excluded from all polite communieation, and Peregrine, for the present, disgraced among the modelt part of his female acquaintance, many of whom not only forbade him their houses. on account of the impudent infult he had committed upon their honour as well as understanding, in palming a common trull upon them as a young lady of birth and education, but also aspersed his family, by affirming that the was actually his own confin-german, whom he had precipitately raifed from the most abject state of humility and contempt. In revenge for this calumny, our young gentleman explained the whole mystery of her promotion, together with the motives that induced him to bring her into the fashionable world; and repeated, among his companions, the extravagant encomiums which had been bestowed upon her by the most discerning matrons of the age.

Mean-while, the infanta herfelf, being rebuked by her benefactor for this instance of misbehaviour, promised faithfully to keep a stricter guard for the future over her conduct, and applied herself with great assiduity to the studies, in which she was assisted by the Swifs, who gradually lost the freedom of his heart, while she was profiting by his instruction. In other words, she made a conquest Peregrine, though at first offended at his valet's presumption, was, upon second thoughts, reconciled to the event, by which he was delivered from an incumbrance; for by this time he had performed his frolic, and begun to be tired of his acquisition. He reflected on the former fidelity of the Swiss which had been manifested in a long course of service and attachment: and thinking it would be cruelly severe to abandon him to poverty and distress for one venial trespass, he resolved to pardon what he had done, and enable him in some shape to provide for the family which he had entailed upon himself.

With these sentiments he sent a favourable anfwer to the delinquent, defiring to fee him as foon as his passion would permit him to leave the arms of his fpouse, for an hour or two; and Hadgi, in obedience to this intimation, repaired to the lodgings of his master, before whom he appeared with a most penitential aspect. Peregrine, though he could scarce help laughing at his rueful length of face, reprimanded him fliarply for his difrespect and ingratitude, in taking that by stealth which he might have had for asking. The culprit affured him, that next to the vengeance of God, his master's displeasure was that which, of all evils, he dreaded to incur; but that love had distracted his brain in such a manner as to banish every other consideration but that of gratifying his defire; and he owned, that he should not have been able to preserve his fidelity and duty to his own father, had they interfered with the interest of his passion. He then appealed to his master's own heart for the remission of his guilt, alluding to certain circumstances of our hero's conduct, which evinced the desperate effects of love. In fhort, he made such an apology as extorted a fmile from his offended judge. who not only forgave his transgression, but also promifed to put him in fome fair way of earning a comfortable subsissence.

The Swifs was so much affected with this instance of generosity, that he fell upon his knees, and kissed his hand, praying to Heaven, with great

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fervour, to make him worthy of such goodness and condescension. His scheme, he said, was to open a coffee-house and tavern in some creditable part of the town, in hopes of being savoured with the custom of a numerous acquaintance he had made among upper servants and reputable tradesmen, not doubting that his wife would be an ornament to his bar, and a careful manager of his affairs. Peregrine approved of the plan, towards the execution of which he made him and his wife a present of sive hundred pounds, together with a promise of erecting a weekly club among his friends, for the reputation and advantage of the house.

Hadgi was so transported with his good fortune that he ran to Pipes, who was in the room, and having hugged him with great cordiality, and made his obedience to his master, hied him home to his bride to communicate his happiness, cutting capers, and talking to himself all the way.

#### C H A P. LXXXVIII.

He is visited by Pallet; contracts an intimacy with a New-Market nobleman; and is by the knowing-ones taken in.

THIS affair being fettled, and our adventurer, for the present, free of all semale connections, he returned to his former course of fast living among the bucks of the town, and performed innumerable exploits among whores, bul-

lies, rooks, constables, and justices of the peace. In the midst of these occupations, he was one morning visited by his old fellow-traveller Pallet. whose appearance gave him equal surprise and concern. Though the weather was fevere, he was cloathed in the thin fummer-drefs which he had wore at Paris, and was now not only threadbare, but in some parts actually patched; his stockings, by a repetition of that practice known among economists by the terms of coaxing, hung like pudding-bags about his ankles; his thirt, though new wash'd, was of the saffron hue, and in divers places appeared through the crannies of his breeches; he had exchanged his own hair for a smokedry'd tye-periwig, which all the flour in his drudging-box had not been able to whiten; his eyes were funk, his jaws lengthened beyond their usual extention; and he seemed twenty years older than he looked when he and our hero parted at Rotterdam.

In spite of all these evidences of decay, he accossed him with a meagre affectation of content and good humour, struggled piteously to appear gay and unconcerned, professed his joy at seeing him in England, excused himself for having delayed so long to come and present his respects; alledging, that since his return he had been a mere slave to the satisfaction of some persons of quality and taste, who had insisted upon his sinishing some pieces with the utmost expedition.

Peregrine received him with that compassion

and complaifance which was natural to his dispofition; inquired about the health of Mrs Pallet and his family, and asked if his friend the doctor was in town. The painter feemed to have refumed his resentment against that gentleman, of whom he spoke in contemptuous terms. "The doctor (said he) is so much overshadowed with presumption and self-conceit, that his merit has no relief. It does not rife. There is no keeping in the picture, my dear Sir. All the fame as if I were to represent the moon under a cloud; there will be nothing but a deep mass of shade, with a little tiny speck of light in the middle, which would only ferve to make, as it were, the darkness visible: You understand me. Had he taken my advice, it might have been better for him; but he's bigotted to his own opinion. You, must know, Mr Pickle, upon our return to England, I counselled him to compose a little funart clever ode upon my Cleopatra As Gad shall judge me, I thought it would have been of some fervice, in helping him out of obscurity; for you know, as Sir Richard observes.

Soon will that die, which adds thy fame to mine: Let me then live, join'd to a work of thine.

By-the bye, there is a most picturesque contrast in these lines of thy and me, living and dying, and thine and mine. Ah! a pize upon it! Dick, after all, was the man. Ecod! he rounded it off. But, to return to this unhappy young man, would you believe it, he toffed up his nofe at my friendly proposal, and gabbled something in Greek, which is not worth repeating. The case was this, my dear Sir, he was out of humour at the neglect of the world.

. He thought the poets of the age were jealous of his genius, and strove to crush it accordingly, while the rest of mankind wanted taste sufficient to discern it. For my own part, I profess myfelf one of these; and, as the Clown in Billy Shakespear says of the courtier's oath, Had Isworn by the doctor's genius, that the pancakes were naught, they might have been for all that very good, yet shouldn't I have been forsworn. Let that be as it will, he retired from town in great dudgeon, and fet up his rest near a hill in Derbyflire, with two tops, refembling Parnaffus, and a well at the bottom, which he had christened Hyp-o-the-Green. Egad! if he stays in that habitation, 'tis my opinion he'll foon grow green with the hip indeed. He'll be glad of an opportunity to return to the flesh-pots of Egypt, and pay his court to the flighted queen Cleopatra. Ha! well remembered, by this light you shall know, my good Sir, that this same Egyptian princel's has been courted by fo many gallants of taffe, that, as I hope to live, I found myself in some fort of dilemma, because in parting with her to one, I thould have disobliged all his rivals. Now, a man would not chuse to give offence to his friends, at least I lay it down as a maxim, to avoid the

smallest appearance of ingratitude. Perhaps I may be in the wrong. But every man has his way. For this reason, I proposed to all the candidates, that a lottery or raffle should be set on foot, by which every individual would have an equal chance for her good graces, and the prize be left to the decision of Fortune. The scheme was mightily relished, and the terms being such a trifle as half a guinea, the whole town crowded into my house in order to subscribe. But there I was their humble fervant. Gentlemen, you must have a little patience till my own particular friends are ferved. Among that number, I do myself the honour to consider Mr Pickle. Here is a copy of the proposals; and if the lift should be adorned with his name, I hope, notwithstanding his merited fuccels among the young ladies, he will for once be shunned by that little vixen called Miss Fortune :- He, he, he !

So faying, he bowed with a thousand apish congees, and presented his paper to Peregrine, who feeing the number of fubscribers was limited to one hundred, faid, he thought him too moderate in his expectations, as he did not doubt that his picture would be a cheap purchase at five hundred, instead of fifty pounds, at which the price was fixed. To this unexpected remark Pallet anfwered, that among the connoisseurs he would not pretend to appraise his picture; but that, in valuing his works, he was obliged to have an eye to the Gothic ignorance of the age in which he lived.

Our adventurer faw at once into the nature of this raffle, which was no other than a begging shift to dispose of a paultry piece that he could not otherwise have sold for twenty shillings. However, far from shocking the poor man in distress, by dropping the least hint of his conjecture, he defired to be favoured with fix chances, if the circumstances of his plan would indulge him fo far; and the painter, after some hesitation, condescended to comply with his request, out of pure friendthip and veneration; though he observed, that in fo doing he must exclude some of his most intimate companions. Having received the money, he gave Pickle his address, desiring he would, with his convenience, visit the princess, who, he was sure, would display her most engaging attractions, in order to captivate his fancy; and took his leave, extremely well pleafed with the fuccess of his application.

Though Peregrine was tempted with the curiofity of feeing this portrait, which he imagined must contain some analogy to the ridiculous oddity of the painter, he would not expose himfelf to the disagreeable alternative of applauding the performance, contrary to the distates of conscience and common sense, or of condemning it, to the unspeakable mortification of the miserable author; and therefore never dreamt of returning the painter's visit: nor did he ever hear of the lottery's being drawn.

About this time he was invited to spend a few

weeks at the country-seat of a certain nobleman, with whom he had contracted an acquaintance, in the course of his debauches, which we have already described. His lordship being remarkable for his skill and success in horse-racing, his house was continually filled with the connoisseurs and admirers of that sport, upon which the whole conversation turned, insomuch that Peregrine gradually imbibed some knowledge in horse-slesh, and the diversions of the course; for the whole eccupation of the day, exclusive of eating and drinking, consisted in viewing, managing, and ex-

ercifing his lordthip's flud.

Our hero looked upon these amusements with an eye of taste, as well as curiosity; he contemplated the animal as a beautiful and elegant part of the creation, and relished the surprising exertion of its speed with a refined and classical delight. In a little time, he became personally acquainted with every horse in the stable, and interested himself in the reputation of each; while he also gratified his appetite for knowledge, in observing the methods of preparing their bodies, and training them to the race. His landlord faw and encouraged his eagerness, from which he promised himself some advantage; he formed several private matches for his entertainment, and flattered his discernment, by permitting him to be successful in the first betts he made. Thus was he artfully decoyed into a spirit of keenness and adventure, and disposed to depend upon his awn judgment, in opposition to that of people who had made horse-racing the sole study of their lives. He accompanied my Lord to New-market, and entering at once into the genius of the place, was marked as fair game, by all the knowing ones there assembled, many of whom sound means to take him in, in spite of all the cautions and admonitions of his lordship, who wanted to referve him for his own use.

It is almost impossible for any man, let him be ever fo fearful or phlegmatic, to be an unconcerned spectator in this busy scene. The dæmon of play hovers in the air, like a pestilential vapour. tainting the minds of all present with infallible infection, which communicates from one perfon to another, like the circulation of a general panic. Peregrine was feized with this epidemic distemper to a violent degree; and after having left a few loofe hundreds, in his progrefs through all the various rookeries of the place, entered into partnership with his noble friend in a grand match, upon the iffue of which he ventured no less than three thousand pounds. Indeed he would not have risked such a considerable fum, had not his own confidence been reinforced by the opinion and concurrence of his lordship, who hazarded an equal bett upon the same event. These two associates engaged themfelves in the penalty of fix thousand pounds, to run one chaife and four against another, three times round the course; and our adventurer had dure the damage and the fcorn.

He was deeply affected with this misfortune. which he imputed to his own extravagance and temerity, but discovered no external signs of affliction, because his illustrious partner bore his loss with the most philosophic relignation, confoling himself, as well as Pickle, with the hope of making it up on fome other occasion. Neverthelefs, our young gentleman could not help admiring and even envying his equanimity, not knowing that his lordship had managed matters fo as to be gainer by the misfortune; which to retrieve, Peregrine purchased several horses, at the recommendation of his friend; and instead of returning to London, made a tour with him to all the celebrated races in England, at which, after several vicissitudes of fortune, he made shift, before the end of the feafon, to treble his lofs.

But his hopes feemed to increase with his ill-In the beginning of winter he came to town fully persuaded that fortune must necessarily change, and that next feafon he should reap the happy fruits of his experience. In this confidence, he seemed to drown all ideas of prudence and economy. His former expence was mere parfimony compared with that which he now inourred: he subscribed to the opera, and half a dozen concerts at different parts of the town; was a benefactor to several hospitals, purchased a collection of valuable pictures, took an house and furnished it in a most magnificent taste, laid in a great stock of French wines, and gave extravagant entertainments to his quality-friends, who in return loaded him with compliment, and insisted upon his making use of their interest and good-will.

### C H A P. LXXXIX.

He is taken into the protection of a great man; fets up for member of parliament; is disappointted in his expectation, and finds himself egregiousty outwitted.

A MONG these professed patrons, the greatest part of whom Peregrine saw through, there was one great personage, who seemed to support with dignity the sphere in which fortune had placed him. His behaviour to Pickle was not a series of grinning complaisance in a slat repetition of general expressions of friendship and regard. He demeaned himself with a seemingly honest reserve, in point of profession; his advances to Peregrine appeared to be the result of deliberation and experiment; he chid the young gentleman for his extravagance with the authority of a parent and the sincerity of a fast friend;

and having, by gradual inquiries, made himfelf acquainted with the state of his private affairs, condemned his conduct with an air of candour and concern. He represented to him the folly and dangerous confequences of the profligate life in which he had plunged himfelf, counselled him with great warmth to fell off his race-horfes, which would otherwise insensibly eat him up; to retrench all superfluous expence, which would only ferve to expose him to the ridicule and ingratitude of those who were benefited by it; to lay out his money upon fecure mortgages, at good interest : and carry into execution his former defign of standing candidate for a borough at the ensuing election for a new parliament; in which case this nobleman promised to assist him with his influence and advice; affuring him, that if he could once procures feat in the house, he might look upon his fortune as already made.

Our adventurer perceived the wisdom and sanity of this advice, for which he made his acknowledgments to his generous monitor, protesting that he would adhere to it in every particular, and immediately set about a reformation. He accordingly took cognizance of his most minute affairs, and after an exact scrutiny, gave his patron to understand, that, exclusive of his furniture, his fortune was reduced to sourteen thousand three hundred and thirty pounds in Bank and South-sea annuities, over and above the garrison and its appendages, which he reckoned at fixty pounds a-year. He therefore desired, that as his lordship had been so kind as to savour him with his friendship and advice, he would extend his generosity still farther, by putting him in a way of making the most advantage of his money. My lord said, that for his own part he did not chuse to meddle in money matters; that Mr Pickle would find abundance of people ready to borrow it upon land-security; but that he ought to be extremely cautious in a transaction of such consequence; promising at the same time to employ his own steward in seeking out a mortgager to whom it might be safely lent.

This agent was accordingly fet at work, and for a few days made fruitless inquiry; fo that the young gantleman was obliged to have recourse to his own intelligence, by which he got notice of several people of reputed credit, who offered him mortgages for the whole fum; but when he made a report of the particulars to his noble friend, his lordship started such doubts and objections relating to each, that he was deterred from entering into any engagements with the propofers; congratulating himself in the mean time on his good fortune, in being favoured with the advice and direction of fuch a fage counfellor. Nevertheless, he began to be impatient, after having unfuccessfully consulted all the money-brokers and conveyancers about town, and refolved to try the expedient of a public advertisement. But he was perfuaded by my lord to postpone

that experiment, until every other method should have failed, because it would attract the attention of all the Pettifoggers in London, who (though they might not be able to over-reach) would infallibly harrass and teize him out of all

tranquillity.

It was on the back of this conversation that Peregrine, chancing to meet the steward near his lord's house, stopped him in the street, to give him an account of his bad luck; at which the other expressed some concern, and rubbing his chin with his hand, in a musing posture, told Pickle there was a thought just come into his head, pointing out one way of doing his business effectually. The youth, upon this intimation, begg'd he would accompany him to the next coffee house, in which having chosen a private situation, this grave manager gave him to understand, that a part of my lord's estate was mortgaged, in consequence of a debt contracted by his grandfather, for provision to the younger children of the family; and that the equity of redemption would be foreclofed in a few months, unless the burden could be discharged. "My lord (said he) has always lived in a splendid manner, and notwithstanding his ample fortune, together with the profits accruing from the posts he enjoys, he saves so little money, that, upon this occasion, I know he will be obliged to borrow ten thousand pounds to make up the fum that is requisite to redeem the mortgage. Now, certain I am, that when his defign comes to be known, he will be solicited on all hands by people desirous of lending money upon such undoubted security; and 'tis odds but he has already promised the preference to some particular acquaintance. However, as I know he has your interest very much at heart, I will (if you please) sound his lordship upon the subject, and in a day or two give you notice of my success."

Peregrine, ravished with the prospect of settling this affair fo much to his fatisfaction, thanked the steward for his friendly hint and undertaking, which he affured him should be acknowledged by a more folid proof of his gratitude, provided the business could be brought to bear; and next day, he was visited by this kind manager, with the happy news of his lordship's having confented to borrow ten thousand pounds of his flock, upon mortage, at the interest of five per cent. This information he received as an instance of the fingular esteem of his noble patron; and the papers being immediately drawn and executed, the money was deposited in the hands of the mortager, who, in the hearing of the lender, laid strong injunctions on his steward to pay the interest punctually at quarter-day.

The best part of our hero's fortune being thus happily deposited, and the agent gratified with a present of sifty pieces, he began to put his retrenching scheme in execution; all his servants (Pipes excepted) were discharged, his chariot and

running horses disposed of, his house-keeping broke up, and his furniture fold by auction; nay, the heat of his disposition was as remarkable in this as in any other transaction of his life; for every step of his faving project was taken with fuch eagerness, and even precipitation, that most of his companions thought he was either ruined or mad. But he answered all their exposulations with a string of prudent apophthegms, such as, " The shortest follies are the best ;" " Better to retrench upon conviction than compulsion;" and divers other wife maxims, feemingly the refult of experience and philosophic reflection. To such a degree of enthusiasm did his present oeconomy prevail, that he was actually feized with the defire of amaffing; and as he every day received. proposals, from those brokers whom he had employed about the disposal of his cash, he at length ventured fifteen hundred pounds upon bottomry, being tempted by the excessive premium.

But it must be observed, for the honour of our adventurer, that this reformation did not at all interfere with the good qualities of his heart: He was still as friendly and benevolent as ever, though his liberality was more subject to the restraint of reason; and he might have justly pleaded, in vindication of his generosity, that he retrenched the superstuities in his own way of living, in order to preserve the power of assisting his fellow creatures in distress. Numberless were the objects to which he extended his charity in

private. Indeed, he exerted this virtue in fecret, not only on account of avoiding the charge of oftentation, but also because he was ashamed of being detected in fuch an aukward unfashionable practice, by the cenforious observers of this humane generation. In this particular, he feemed to confound the ideas of virtue and vice; for he did good as other people do evil, by flealth; and was fo capricious in point of behaviour, that frequently, in public, he wagged his tongue in fatirical animadversions upon that poverty, which his hand had in private relieved. Yet, far from shunning the acquaintance, or discouraging the felicitations of those who, he thought, wanted his affistance, he was always accessible, open and complacent to them, even when the haughtiness of his temper kept his superiors at a distance; and often faved a modest man the anguish and confufion of declaring himfelf, by penetrating into his necessity, and anticipating his request, in a frank offer of his purse and friendship.

Not that he practifed this beneficence to all the needy of his acquaintance, without distinction; there is always a set of idle profligate fellows, who having squandered away their own fortunes, and conquered all sense of honour and shame, maintain themselves by borrowing from those who have not yet sinished the same career, and want resolution to resist their importunate demands. To these he was always instexible; the he could not absolutely detach himself from their

company, because, by dint of effrontery, and such of their original connexions as they have been able to retain, they find admission to all places of fashionable resort.

Several unsuccessful attacks had been made upon his pocket, by beggars of this class. One of the most artful of them, having one day joined him in the Mall, and made the usual observation on the weather, damned all the fogs of London, and began a differtation on the difference of air. preferring that of the country in which he was born to any climate under the fun. "Was you ever in Gloucestershire?" (said he to Peregrine,) who replying in the negative, he thus went on: "I have got a house there, where I should be glad to fee you. Let us go down together, during the Easter holidays; I can promise you good country fare and wholfome exercise: for I have every thing within myself, and as good a pack of fox hounds as any in the three kingdoms. I shan't pretend to expatiate upon the elegance of the house, which, to be fure, is an old building; and thefe, you know, are generally cold, and not very convenient. But, curse the house! the dirty acres about it are the thing; and a damn'd fine parcel they are to be fure. If my old grandmother was dead-fhe can't live another feafon, for she's turned of fourscore, and quite wore out : nay, as for that matter, I believe I have got a letter in my pocket, giving an account of her being despaired of by the doctors. Let me fee-No, d-n it, I left it at home in the pocket of another coat.

Pickle, who from the beginning of this harangue faw its tendency, feemed to yield the most ferious attention to what he faid; breaking in upon it, every now and then, with the interjections, Hum! Ha! The deuce! and several civil questions, from which the other conceived happy omens of fuccess; till perceiving they had advanced as far as the passage into St James's, the mischievous youth interrupted him all at once, faying, " I fee you are for the end of the walk; this is my way." With these words he took his leave of the faunterer, who would have delayed his retreat, by calling to him aloud, that he had not yet described the situation of his castle. But Peregrine, without stopping, answered in the same tone, " Another time will do as well;" and in a moment difappeared, leaving the projector very much mortified with his disappointment; for his intention was to close the description, with a demand of twenty pieces, to be repaid out of the first remittance he should receive from his estate.

It would have been well for our hero, had he always acted with the same circumspection: but he had his unguarded moments, in which he fells a prey, to the unsuspecting integrity of his own heart. There was a person among the number of his acquaintances, whose conversation he particularly relished, because it was frank, agreeable, and fraught with many sensible observations upon the crast and treachery of mankind. This gentleman had made shift to discuss a very genteel for-

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tune, though it was spent with taste and reputation, and now he was reduced to his shifts for the maintainance of his family, which consisted of a wife and child. Not that he was destitute of the necessaries of life, being comfortably supplied by the bounty of his friends; but this was a provision not at all suited to his inclination; and he had endeavoured, by divers unsuccessful schemes, to retrieve his former independency.

Peregrine happened one evening to be fitting alone in a coffee-house, where he overheard a conversation between this schemer and another gentleman touching an affair that engaged his attention. The stranger had been left trustee for fifteen hundred pounds, bequeathed to the other's daughter by an aunt, and was strongly folicited to pay the money to the child's father, who affured him, he had then an opportunity to lay it out in such a manner as would greatly conduce to the advantage of his family. The trustee reminded him of the nature of his charge, which made him accountable for the money, until the child should have attained the age of eighteen; but at the same time gave him to understand, that if he could procure such security as would indemnify him from the confequences, he would forthwith pay the legacy into his hands. this proposal the father replied, that it was not to be supposed he would risk the fortune of his only child, upon any idle scheme or precarious. issue: and therefore he thought it reasonable,

that he should have the use of it in the mean time; and that, as to security, he was loth to trouble any of his friends about an affair which might be compromised without their interposition; observing, that he would not look upon his condescension as a savour, if obtained by a security, on which he could borrow the same sum from a

ny usurer in town. After much importunity on one fide, and evafion on the other, the money'd gentleman told him, that though he would not furrender the fum deposited in his hands, for the use of his daughter, he would lend him what he should have occasion for in the mean time; and if upon her being of age, he should be able to obtain her concurrence, the money should be placed to her account; provided he could find any person of credit, who would join with him in a bond, for the affurance of the lender. This proviso was an obstruction which the other would not have been able to furmount without great difficulty, had not his cause been espoused by our hero, who thought it was a pity a man of honour and understanding should suffer in his principal concerns on fuch a paultry confideration. He therefore, prefuming on his acquaintance, interpofed in the conversation as a friend, who interested himself in the affair; and being fully informed of the particulars, offered himself as a security for the lender.

This gentleman being a stranger to Peregrine,

was next day made acquainted with his funds; and, without farther fcruple, accommodated his friend with one thousand pounds, for which he took their bond, payable in fix months, though he protested that the money should never be demanded until the infant should be of age, unless fome accident should happen which he could not then forfee. Pickle believed this declaration fincere, because he could have no interest in dissembling: but what he chiefly depended upon for his own fecurity, was the integrity and confidence of the borrower, who affured him, that happen what would, he should be able to stand between him and all danger; the nature of this plan being fuch, as would infallibly treble the fum in a. very few months.

In a little time after this transaction, writs being issued out for electing a new parliament, our adventurer, by the advice of his patron, went into the country, in order to canvass for a borough, and lined his pockets with a competent share of bank notes for the occasion. But, in this project, he unfortunately happened to interfere with the interest of a great family in the opposition, who for a long series of years, had made members for that place; and were now so much offended at the intrusion of our young gentleman, that they threatened to spend ten thousand pounds in frustrating his design. This menace was no other than an incitement to Peregrine, who consided so much in his own influence and

address, that he verily believed he should be able to baffle his Grace, even in his own territories. By that victory he hoped to establish his reputation and interest with the minister, who, through the recommendation of his noble friend, countenanced his cause, and would have been very well pleased to see one of his greatest enemies suffer such a disgraceful overthrow, which would have, moreover, in a great measure, shaken his credit. with his faction.

Our hero, intoxicated with the ideas of pride and ambition, put all his talents to the test, in the execution of this project. He spared no expence in treating the electors; but finding himself rivalled, in this respect, by his competitor, who was powerfully supported, he had recourse to those qualifications in which he thought himfelf inperior. He made balls for the ladies, visited the matrons of the corporation, adapted himfelf to their various humours with furprifing facility, drank with those who loved a cherishing cup in private. made love to the amorous, prayed with the religious, goffiped with those who delighted in scandal, and with great fagacity contrived agreeable presents to them all. This was the most effectual method of engaging fuch electors as were under the influence of their wives. As for the reft. he affailed them in their own way, fetting whole hogheads of beer and wine abroach, for the benefit of all comers; and, into those fordid hearts. that liquor would not open, he found means to convey himself by the help of a golden key.

While he thus exerted himself, his antagonist was not idle; his age and infirmities would not permit him to enter personally into their parties; but his steward and adherents bestirred themselves with great industry and perseverance. The market for votes ran so high, that Pickle's ready money was exhausted before the day of election; and he was obliged to write to his patron an account of the dilemma to which he was reduced; intreating him to take such speedy measures, as would enable him to finish the business which he

had fo happily begun.

This nobleman communicated the circumstances of the case to the minister, and in a day or two our candidate found credit with the receiver-general of the county, who lent him twelve hundered pounds on his personal note, payable on demand. By means of this new fupply, he managed matters fo fuccessfully, that an evident majority of votes was secured in his interest; and nothing could have obstructed his election, had not the noble peer who fet up his competitor; in order to avoid the shame and mortification of being foiled in his own borough, offered to compromife the affair with his honour, by giving up two members in another place, provided the opposition should cease in his own corporation. propofal was greedily embraced. On the eve of election, Peregrine received an intimation from his patron, defiring him to quit his pretentions, on pain of his and the minister's displeasure; and

promiting that he should be elected for another place.

No other disappointment in life could have given him such chagrin as he felt at the receipt of this tantalizing order, by which the cup of fuccess was snatched from his lip, and all the vanity of his ambitious hope humbled in the dust. He curs'd the whole chain of his court connexions, inveighed with great animofity against the rascally scheme of politics to which he was facrificed; and in conclusion swore he would not give up the fruits of his own address for the pleafure of any minister upon earth. This laudable resolution, however, was rendered ineffectual by his friend the receiver general, who was bearer of the message, and (after having, in vain, endeavoured to perfuade him to fubmission) fairly arrefled him upon the fpot for the money he had advanced; this expedient being performed by virtue of a writ which he had been advised to take out in cafe the young man should prove refractory.

The reader, who, by this time, must be pretty well acquainted with the disposition of our adventurer, may easily conceive how he relished this adventure. At first, all the faculties of his soul were swallowed up in astonishment and indignation; and some minutes elapsed before his nerves would obey the impulse of his rage, which manifested itself in such an application to the temples of the plaintiff, as laid him sprawling on the sloor. This assault, which was committed in a tavern

whither he had been purposely decoyed, attracted the regard of the bailiff and his followers, who, to the number of four, rushed upon him at once, in order to overpower him; but his wrath inspired him with such additional strength and agility, that he disengaged himself from them in a trice, and feizing a poker, which was the first weapon that presented itself to his hand, exercised it upon their skulls with incredible dexterity and execution. The officer himself, who had been the first that prefumed to lay violent hands upon him, felt the first effects of his fury, in a blow upon the jaws, in confequence of which he loft three of his teeth, and fell athwart the body of the receiver, with which he form'd the figure of a St Andrew's crofs: one of his myrmidons feeing the fate of his chief, would not venture to attack the victor in front, but wheeling to one fide made an attempt upon him in flank, and was. received obliquely by our hero's left hand and foot, so masterly disposed to the right side of his leg, and the left fide of his neck, that he bolted head foremost into the chimney, where his chin was encountered by the grate, which, in a moment, feared him to the bone. The rest of the detachment did not think proper to maintain the dispute, but evacuating the room with great expedition, locked the door on the outfide, and bellowed aloud to the receiver's servants, befeeching them to come to the affistance of their master, who was in danger of his life.

Mean while, this gentleman having recollected himself, demanded a parley; which having with difficulty obtained of our incensed candidate, in consequence of the most submissive application. he complained grievously of the young gentleman's intemperance and heat of disposition, and very calmly represented the danger of his rashness and indifcretion. He told him, that nothing could be more outrageous or idle, than the refistance he had made against the laws of his country, because he would find it impracticable to withstand the whole executive power of county, which he could easily raise to apprehend and secure him; that over and above the difgrace that would accrue to him from this imprudent conduct, he would knock his own interest on the head, by disobliging his friends in the administration, who were, to his knowledge, at present very well disposed to do him fervice; that, for his own part, what he had done was by the express order of his superiors. and not out of any defire of distressing him; and that, far from being his enemy, notwithstanding the shocking infult he had sustained, he was ready to withdraw the writ, provided he would listen to any reasonable terms of accommodation.

Peregrine, who was not more prone to anger than open to conviction, being appealed by his condescension, moved by his arguments, and chid by his own reflection for what he had done in the precipitation of his wrath, began to give ear to his remonstrances; and the bailiffs being ordered

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to withdraw, they entered into a conference, the refulr of which was our adventurer's immediate departure for London; fo that next day his competitor was unanimously chosen, because no body

appeared to oppose his election.

The discontented Pickle, on his arrival in town, went directly to the house of his patron, to whom, in the anguish of his disappointment, he bitterly complained of the treatment he had received; by which, besides the disgrace of his overthrow, he was no less than two thousand pounds out of pocket, exclusive of the debt for which he flood engaged to the receiver. His lordship, who was prepared for the exposulation, on his knowledge of the young man's impetuous temper, answered all the articles of his charge with great deliberation, giving him to understand the motives that induced the minister to quit his interest in that borough; and soothing him with asfurances that his lofs would be amply rewarded by his honour, to whom he was nex day introduced by this nobleman, in the warmest style of recommendation. The minister, who was a pattern of complaifance, received him with the most engaging affability; thanked him very kindly for his endeavours to support and strengthen the interest of the administration; and faithfully promised to lay hold on the first opportunity to express the sense he had of his zeal and attachment; defired to fee him often at his levee, that in the multiplicity of business he might not be in danger of forgetting his fervices and defert.

#### CHAP. XC.

Peregrine commences minister's dependent: meets by accident with Mrs Gauntlet; and descends gradually in the condition of life.

please Peregrine, who had too much discernment to be cajoled with general promises, at a time when he thought himself intitled to the most particular assurance. He accordingly signified his disgust to his introductor, giving him to understand, that he had laid his account with being chosen representative of one of those boroughs for which he had been sacrificed. His lordship agreed to the reasonableness of his expectation, observing, however, that he could not suppose the minister would enter upon business with him, on his first visit; and that it would be time enough, at his next audience, to communicate his demand.

Notwithstanding this remonstrance, our here continued to indulge his suspicion and chagrin, and even made a point of it with his patron, that his lordship should next day make application in his behalf, least the two seats should be filled up, on pretence of his inclinations being unknown. Thus importuned, my lord went to his principal, and returned with an answer, importing, that his Honour was extremely forry that Mr Pickle had not signified his request before the boroughs in

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question were promised to two gentlemen whom he could not disappoint, with any regard to his own credit or interest; but as several persons who would be chosen, were, to his certain knowledge, very aged and insirm, he did not doubt that there would be plenty of vacant seats in a very short time; and then the young gentleman might

depend upon his friendship.

Peregrine was fo much irritated at this intimation, that, in the first transports of his anger, he forgot the respect he owed to his friend; and in his presence inveighed against the minister, as a person deveid of gratitude and candour, protesting, that if ever an opportunity should offer itfelf, he would fpend the whole remains of his fortune in opposing his measures. The nobleman having given him time to exhauft the impetuofity of his paffion, rebuked him very calmly for his difrespectful expressions, which were equally injurious and indifcreet; affored him, that his project of revenge, if ever put in execution, would redound to his own prejudice and confusion; and advised him to cultivate and improve, with patience and affiduity, the footing he had already obtained in the minister's good graces.

Our hero, convinced of the truth, though not fatisfied with the occasion of his admonitions, took his leave in a fit of sullen discontent, and began to ruminate upon the shattered posture of his affairs. All that now remained of the ample fortune he had inherited, was the sum he had de-

posited in his lordship's hands, together with fifteen hundred pounds he had ventured on bottomry, and the garrison, which he had left for the use and accommodation of the lieutenant; and on the per contra fide of his account he was debtor for the supply he had received from the receiver-general, and the money for which he was bound in behalf of his friend; fo that he found himself, for the first time of his life, very much embarraffed in his circumstances; for, of the first half year's interest of his ten thousand, which was punctually paid, he had but fourfcore pounds in bank, without any profpect of a farther supply 'till the other term, which was at the distance of four long months. He seriously reflected upon the uncertainty of human affairs; the ship with his fifteen hundred pounds might be loft, the gentleman for whom he was fecurity might miscarry in this as well as in his former projects, and the minister might one day, through policy or difpleafure, expose him to the mercy of his dependent, who was in possession of his notes.

These suggestions did not at all contribute to the ease of our adventurer's mind, already russed by his disappointment. He cursed his own folly and extravagance, by which he was reduced to such an uncomfortable situation. He compared his own conduct with that of some young gentlemen of his acquaintance, who, while he was squandering away the best part of his inheritance, had improved their fortunes, strengthened their interest, and increased their reputation. He was abandoned by his gaiety and good humour, his countenance gradually contracted itself into a representation of severity and care, he dropped all his amusements and the companions of his pleafure, and turned his whole attention to the minister, at whose severe he never failed to appear.

While he thus laboured in the wheel of dependence, with all that mortification which a youth of his pride and fenfibility may be supposed to feel from fuch a difagreeable necessity, he one day heard himself called by name, as he crossed the Park; and, turning, perceived the wife of captain Gauntlet with another lady. Heno fooner recognized the kind Sophy, than he accosted her with his wonted civility of friendship; but his former sprightly air was metamorphosed into fuch austerity, or rather dejection of feature, that the could scarce believe her own eyes ; and, in her astonishment, " Is it possible (faid flie) that the gay Mr Pickle should be so much altered in such a short space of time!" He made no other reply to this exclamation, but by a languid smile; and asked how long she had been in town; obferving, that he would have paid his compliments. to her at her own lodgings, had he been favoured with the least intimation of her arrival. ter having thanked him for his politeness, she told him, it was not owing to any abatement of herfriendship and esteem for him, that she had omitted to give him that notice; but his abrupt de-

parture from Windfor, and the manner in which he quitted Mr Gauntlet, had given her just grounds to believe, that they had incurred his difpleasure; which suspicion was re-inforced by his long filence and neglect from that period to the present time. She observed, it was still farther confirmed, by his forbearing to inquire for Emilia and her brother; " Judge then, (faid she) if I had any reason to believe that you would be pleased to hear that I was in town. However, I will not detain you at present, because you seem to be engaged about some particular bufiness; but, if you will favour me with your company at breakfast to-morrow, I shall be much pleased, and honoured to boot, by the visit." So saying, she gave him direction to her lodgings; and he took his leave, with a faithful promise of seeing her at the appointed time.

He was very much affected with this advance of Sophy, which he confidered as an instance of her uncommon sweetness of temper; he felt strange longings of returning friendship towards. Godfrey; and the remembrance of Emilia melted his heart, already softened with grief and mortification. Next day, he did not neglect his engagement, and had the pleasure of enjoying a long conversation with this sensible young lady, who gave him to understand, that her husband was with his regiment; and presented to him a fine boy, the first-fruits of their love, whom they had christened by the name of Peregrine, in memory of the

friendship which had subsisted between Godfrey

and our youth.

This proof of their regard, notwithstanding the interruption in their correspondence, made a deep impression upon the mind of our adventurer, who having made the warmest acknowledgments for this undeferved mark of respect, took the child in his arms, and almost devoured him with kiffes, protesting before God, that he should always confider him with the tenderness of a parent. This was the highest compliment he could pay to the gentle Sophy, who again kindly chid him for his disdainful and precipitate retreat, immediately after her marriage; and expressed an earnest desire of seeing him and the captain reconciled. He affured her, nothing could give him greater fatisfaction than fuch an event, to which he would contribute all that lay in his power, though he could not help looking upon himfelf as injured by captain Gauntlet's behaviour, which denoted a suspicion of his honour, as well as contempt for his understanding. The lady undertook for the concession of her husband, who (she told him) had been extremely forry for his own heat. after Mr Pickle's departure, and would have folfowed him to the garrifon, in order to folicit his forgiveness, had not he been restrained by certain punctilios, occasioned by some aerimonious expressions that dropt from Peregrine at the inn.

After having cleared up this misunderstanding, she proceeded to gave an account of Emilia,

whose behaviour, at that juncture, plainly indicated a continuance of affection for her first lover; and desired, that he would give her full powers to bring that matter also to an accommodation: "For I am not more certain of my own existence (said she) than that you are still in possession of my sister's heart." At this declaration, the tear started in his eye: But he shook his head, and declined her good offices, wishing that the young lady might be much more happy than ever he should be able to make her.

Mrs. Gauntlet, confounded at these expresfions, and moved by the desponding manner in which they were delivered, begg'd to know if any new obstacle was raised, by some late change in his fentiments or fituation: and he, in order to avoid a painful explanation, told her, that he had long despaired of being able to vanquish Emilia's refentment, and for that reason quitted the pursuit, which he would never renew, howsoever his heart might fuffer by that resolution; though he took heaven to witness, that his love, esteemand admiration of her, were not in the least impaired; but the true motive of his laying aside his delign, was the consciousness of his decayed fortune, which, by adding to the infensibility. of his pride, increased the horror of another repulse. She expressed her concern for this determination, both on his own account, and in behalf of Emilia, whose happiness (in her opinion) depended upon his constancy and affection; and

the would have questioned him more minutely about the state of his affairs, had not he discouraged the inquiry, by seeking to introduce another.

fubject of conversation.

After mutual protestations of friendship and regard, he promifed to vifit her often, during her residence in town; and took his leave in a strange perplexity of mind, occasioned by the images of love, intruding upon the remonstrances of carking care. He had some time ago forsaken those extravagant companions with whom he had rioted in the heyday of his fortune, and begun to confort with a graver and more fober species of acquaintance: but he now found himself disabled from cultivating the fociety of these also, who were men of ample effates, and liberal dispositions; in confequence of which, their parties were too expensive for the confumptive state of his finances; fo that he was obliged to descend to another degree, and mingle with a fet of old batchelors and younger brothers, who subfifted on sender amouties, or what is called a bare competency in : the public funds. This affociation was compofed of fecond-hand politicians and minor critics, who, in the forenoon faunter in the Mall, or lounge at shows of pictures, appear in the drawing-room once or twice a-week, dine at an ordinary, decide disputes in a coffee-house, with an air of superior intelligence, frequent the pit of the play-house, and once in a month spend an evesing with fome noted actor, whose remarkable

fayings they repeat for the entertainment of their ordinary friends.

After all, he found something comfortable enough in the company of these gentlemen, who never interested his passions to any violence of transport, nor teased him with impertinent curiofity about his private affairs: for though many of them had maintained a very long, close, and friendly correspondence with each other, they never dreamt of inquiring into particular concerns; and if one of the two who were most intimately connected had been asked how the other made a shift to live, he would have answered, with great truth, " Really, that is more than I know." Notwithstanding this phlegmatic indifference, which is of the true English production, they were all inoffensive, good-natured people, who loved a joke and a fong, delighted in telling a merry flory, and prided themselves in the art of catering, especially in the articles of fish, venison, and wild-fowl.

Our young gentleman was not received among them on the footing of a common member who makes interest for his admission; he was courted as a person of superior genius and importance, and his compliance looked upon as an honour to their society. This their idea of his pre-eminence was supported by his conversation, which while it was more liberal and learned than that to which they had been accustomed, was tinctured with an assuming air, so agreeably diffused, that insteads

of producing aversion, it commanded respect. They not only appealed to him in all doubts relating to foreign parts, to which one and all of them were strangers, but also consulted his knowledge in history and divinity, which were frequently the topics of their debates; and in poetry of all kinds, he decided with fuch magisterial authority as even weighed against the opinions of the players themselves. The variety of characters he had feen and observed, and the high fpheres of life in which he had fo lately moved, furnished him with a thousand entertaining anecdotes. When he became a little familiarized to his disappointments, so that his natural vivacity began to revive, he flashed among them in such anumber of bright fallies, as struck them with admiration, and constituted himself a classic in wit; informed that they began to retail his remnants. and even invited fome particular friends to come and hear him hold forth. One of the players. who had for many years frutted about the taverns in the neighbourhood of Covent-garden as the Grand Turk of wit and homour, began to find his admirers melt away; and a certain petulent physician, who had shone at almost all the Portclubs in that end of the town, was actually obliged to import his talents into the city, where he has now happily taken root.

Nor was this success to be wondered at, if we consider, that, over and above his natural genius and education, our adventurer still had the oppor-

tunity of knowing every thing which happened among the great, by means of his friend Cadwallader, with whom he still maintained his former intimacy, though it was now chequered with many occasional tifts, owing to the farcastic remonstrances of the Misanthrope, who disapproved of those schemes which miscarried with Peregrine, and new took unfeafonable methods of valuing himself upon his own forelight; nay, he was between whiles, like a raven croaking prefages of more ill-luck from the deceit of the minister, the distimulation of his patron, the folly of the projector for whom he was bound, the uncertainty of the feas, and the villainy of those with whom he had entrusted his cash: for Crabtree faw and confidered every thing through a perspective spleen, that always reflected the worst fide of human nature.

For these reasons, our young gentleman began to be disgusted at certain intervals, with the character of this old man, whom he now thought a morose cynic, not so much incensed against the sollies and vices of mankind, as delighted with the distress of his sellow-creatures. Thus he put the most unsavourable construction on the principles of his friend, because he found himself justly sallen under the lash of his animadversion. This self accusation very often dissolves the closest friendship: a man, conscious of his own indiscretion, is implacably offended at the rectitude of his companion's conduct, which he considers as

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an infult upon his failings, never to be forgiven, even though he has not tasted the bitterness of reproof, which no finner can commodiously digest. The friendship, therefore, subsisting between Crabtree and Pickle, had of late suffered feveral fymptomatic shocks that seemed to prognosticate a total dissolution; a great deal of smart dialogue had passed in their private conversations, and the fenior began to repent of having placed his confidence in fuch an imprudent, headstrong,

ungovernable youth.

It was in such paroxysms of displeasure, that he prophesied misfortune to Peregrine, and even told him one morning, that he had dream'd of the shipwreck of the two East-Indiamen on hoard of which he had hazarded his money. But this was no other than a false vision; for, in a few weeks, one of them arrived at her moorings in the river. and he received a thousand in lieu of eight hundred pounds which he had lent upon bond to one of the mates. At the same time he was informed. that the other ship in which he was concerned. had, in all probability, lost her passage for the fealon, by being unable to weather the Cape. He was not at all concerned at that piece of news, knowing, that the longer he should lie out of his money, he would have the more interest to receive; and finding his present difficulties removed by this fupply, his heart began to dilate, and his countenance to refume its former alacrity.

This state of exultation, however, was soon in-

terrupted by a small accident which he could not foresee: he was visited one morning by the person who had lent his friend a thousand pounds on his fecurity, and given to understand, that the borrower had abfconded in confequence of a difappointment, by which he had loft the whole fum, and all hopes of retrieving it; fo that our hero was now liable for the debt, which he befought him to discharge according to the bond, that he (the lender) might not suffer by his humanity. It may be easily conceived, that Peregrine did not receive this intelligence in cold blood. curfed his own imprudence in contracting fuch engagements with an adventurer whom he did not fufficiently know. They exclaimed against the treachery of the projector; and having for seme time indulged his resentment in threats and imprecations, inquired into the nature of the scheme which had miscarried.

The lender, who had informed himself of the whole affair, gratisted his curiosity in this particular, by telling him that the sugitive had been cajoled by a certain knight of the post, who undertook to manage the thousand pounds in such a manner, as would, in a very little time, make him persectly independent; and thus he delineated the plan: "one half of the sum (said he) shall be laid out in jewels, which I will pawn to certain persons of credit and fortune, who lend money upon such pledges at an exorbitant interest. The other shall be kept for relieving them, so

that they may be again deposited with a second fet of those honourable usurers; and when they shall have been circulated in this manner thro' a variety of hands, we will extort money from each of the pawn-brokers, by threatening them with a public profecution, for exacting illegal interest: and I know that they will bleed freely rather than be exposed to the infamy attending such an accufation." The scheme was feasible, and though not very honourable, made fuch an impression upon the needy borrower, that he affented to the proposal; and, by our hero's credit, the money was raifed. The jewels were accordingly purchased; pawned, relieved, and re-pledged by the agent who undertook to manage the whole affair : and so judiciously was the project executed, that he could have eafily proved each lender guilty of the charge. Having thus far successfully transacted the business, this faithful agent visited them feverally on his own account, to give them intimation, that his employer intended to fue them on the statute of usury; upon which, every one for himself bribed the informer to withdraw his evidence, by which alone he could be convicted; and having received these gratifications, he had thought proper to retreat into France, with the whole booty, including the original thousand that put them in motion. In consequence of this decampment, the borrower had withdrawn himself; fo that the lender was obliged to have recourse to his fecurity.

This was a very mortifying account to our young gentleman, who in vain reminded the narrater of his promife, importing, that he would not demand the money until he should be called to an account by his ward; and observed, that, long before that period, the fugitive might appear and discharge the debt. But the other was deaf to these remonstrances; alledging, that his promife was provitional, on the supposition that the borrower would deal candidly and fairly; that he had forfeited all title to his friendship and trust by the fcandalous scheme in which he had embarked; and that his treacherous flight from his fecurity was no proof of his honesty and intended return; but, on the contrary, a warning by which be (the lender) was taught to take care of himfelf. He therefore infifted upon his being indemnified immediately, on pain of letting the law take its course; and Peregrine was actually obliged to part with the whole fum he had so lately received. But this payment was not made without extreme reluctance, indignation, and denunciation of eternal war against the absconder and the rigid creditor, betwixt whom he suspected some collution.

## C H A P. XCI.

Cadwallader acts the part of a comforter to his friend; and in his turn is consoled by Peregrine, who begins to find himself a most egregious dupe.

HIS new misfortune, which he justly charged to the account of his own folly, recal-

led his chagrin; and though he endeavoured with all his might to conceal the affair from the knowledge of Cadwallader, that prying observer perceived his countenance overcast. The projector's fudden disappearance alarming his suspicion, he managed his inquiries with fo much art, that in a few days he made himfelf acquainted with every particular of the transaction, and resolved to gratify his fpleen at the expence of the impatient dupe. With this view he tock an opportunity to accost him with a very ferious air, faying, A friend of his had immediate occasion for a thoufand pounds, and as Peregrins had the exact fum lying by him, he would take it as a great favour. if he would part with it for a few months on undoubted fecurity. Had Pickle known the true motive of this demand, he would in all likelihood, have made a very difagreeable answer; but Crabtree had wrapt himfelf up fo fecurely in the diffimulation of his features, that the youth could not possibly penetrate into his intention; and in a most galling suspence replied, that the money was otherwife engaged. The Mifanthrope, not contented with this irritation, prefumed the prerogative of a friend, and questioned him so mimutely about the disposal of the cash, that after numberless evasions, which cost him a world of torture to invent, he could contain his vexation no longer, but exclaimed in a rage, " Damn your impertinence! 'tis gone to the devil, and that's enough!" Thereafter, as it may be, (faid this

formentor, with a most provoking indifference of aspect,) I should be glad to know upon what sooting; for I suppose you have some expectation of advantage from that quarter." "Sdeath! Sir, (cried the impatient youth,) if I had any expectation from hell, I would make interest with you, for I believe from my soul, you are one of its most favoured ministers upon earth." With these words he slung out of the room, leaving Cadwallader very well satisfied with the chastisement he had bestowed.

Peregrine having cooled himself with a solitary walk in the Park, during which the violence of his choler gradually evaporated, and his reflection was called to serious deliberation upon the posture of his affairs; he resolved to redouble his diligence and importunity with his patron and minister, in order to obtain some sine cure, which would indemnify him for the damage he had sustained on their account. He accordingly went to his lordship, and signified his demand, after having told him, that he had suffered several fresh losses which rendered an immediate provision of that sort necessary to his credit and sub-sistence.

His noble friend commended him for the regard he manifested for his own interest, which he considered as a proof of his being at last detached from the careless inadvertency of youth; he approved of his demand, which he assured him should be faithfully transmitted to the minister,

and backed with all his influence; and encouraged his hope, by observing, that some profitable places were at that time vacant, and, so far as

he knew, unengaged. 1

This conversation helped to restore the tranquile lity of Pickle's breaft, though he still harboured refentment against Cadwallader on account of the last infult; and on the instant he formed a plan of revenge. He knew the Mifanthrope's remittances from his estate in the country had been of late very scanty in consequence of repairs and bankruptcies among his tenants; fo that, in spite of all his frugality, he had been but barely able to maintain his credit, and even that was engaged on the strength of his running rent. Being therefore intimately acquainted with the particulars of his fortune, he wrote a letter to Crabtree, subscribed with the name of his principal farmer's wife, importing, that her husband being lately dead, and the greatest part of her cattle destroyed by the infectious distemper, she found herfelf utterly incapable of paying the rent which was due, or even of keeping the farm, unless he would, out of his great goodness, be pleafed to give her fome affiltance, and allow her to fit free for a twelvemonth to come. This intimation he found means to convey by post from a market-town adjoining to the farm, directed in the usual style to the cynic, who seeing it stamped with the known marks, could not possibly suspect any imposition.

Hackneyed as he was in the ways of life, and fleeled with his boasted floicism, this epistle threw him into fuch an agony of vexation, that a double proportion of fowering was visible in his aspect. when he was visited by the author, who having observed and followed the postman at a proper distance, introduced a conversation upon his own disappointments, in which, among other circumstances of his own ill-luck, he told him, that his patron's seward had defired to be excused from paying the last quarter of his interest precisely at the appointed term: for which reason, he should be utterly void of cash; and therefore requested. that Crabtree would accommodate him with an hundred pieces out of his next remittance from the country.

This demand galled and perplexed the old man to fuch a degree, that the muscles of his face asfumed a contraction peculiarly virulent, and exhibited the character of Diogenes with a most lively expression; he knew that a confession of his true fituation would furnish Pickle with an opportunity to make reprifals upon him, with intolerable triumph; and that, by a downright refufal to supply his wants, he would for ever forfeit his friendship and esteem, and might provoke him to take ample vengeance for his fordid behaviour, by exposing him, in his native colours, to the refentment of those whom he had so long de-These considerations kept him some ceived: time in a most rancorous state of suspence, which Peregrine affected to misinterpret, by bidding him freely declare his suspicion, if he did not think it safe to comply with his request, and he would make shift elsewhere.

This feeming misconstruction increased the torture of the Misanthrope, who with the utmost irritation of feature, "Oons! (cried he) what villainy have you noted in my conduct, that you treat me like a rascally usurer?" Peregrine very gravely replied, that the question needed no answer; " for (faid he) had I confidered you as an usurer, I would have come with a fecurity under my arm; but, all evafion apart, Will you stead me? will you pleasure me? shall I have the money?" " Would it were in your belly with a barrel of gun-powder ! (exclaimed the enraged cynic) fince I must be excruciated. read that plaguy paper !- 'sblood ! why didn't nature clap a pair of long ears and a tail upon me, that I might be a real als, and champ thiftles. on some common, independent of my fellowcreatures ? Would I were a worm, that I might creep into the earth, and thatch my habitation with a fingle straw; or rather a wasp or a viper. that I might make the rascally world feel my refentment. But, why do I talk of rascality? folly, folly is the scourge of life! Give me a scoundrel (fo he be a fensible one) and I will put him in my heart of hearts! but a fool is more mischievous than famine, pestilence and war. The ideotical hag that writes, or causes to be writ,

this same letter has ruined her family, and broke her husband's heart, by ignorance and mismanagement; and she imputes her calamity to providence with a vengeance; and fo I am defrauded of three hundred pounds, the greatest part of which I owe to tradefmen whom I have promised to pay this very quarter. Pox upon her ! I would she were an horned beast, that the diftemper might lay hold on her. The beldame has the impudence too (after she has brought me into this dilemma) to folicit my affistance to stock the farm anew! Before God, I have a good mind to-fend her an halter, and perhaps I might purchase another for myself, but that I would not furnish food for laughter to knaves and coxcombs."

Peregrine having perused the billet, and listened to this ejaculation, replied with great composure, he was ashamed to see a man of his years and pretensions to philosophy, so russed by a trifle. "What signify all the boasted hardships you have overcome (said he) and the shrewd observations you pretend to have made on human nature? Where is that stoical indifference you affirm you have attained, if such a paultry disappointment can disturb you in this manner? What is the loss of three hundred pounds, compared with the missortunes which I myself have undergone within these two years? Yet you wilk take upon you to act the censor, and inveight against the impatience and impetuosity of youth,

as if you yourfelf had gained an absolute conquest over all the passions of the heart. You was fo kind as to infult me t'other day in my affliction, by reproaching me with indifcretion and misconduct; suppose I were now to retort the imputation, and ask, How a man of your profound fagacity could leave your fortune at the discretion of ignorant peasants? How could you be so blind as not to foresee the necessity of repairs, together with the danger of bankruptcy, murrain, or thin crop! Why did not you convert your land into ready money, and (as you have no connexions in life) purchase an annuity, on which you might have lived at your eafe, without any fear of the confequence; Can't you, from the whole budget of your philofophy, cull one apophthegm to confole you for this trivial mischance!"

Rot your rapidity ! (faid the eynic, halfchoaked with gall) if the cancer or the pox were in your throat, I should not be thus tormented with your tongue; and yet a magpye shall speak infinitely more to the purpose. Don't you know, Mr Wifeacre, that my cafe does not fall within the province of philosophy? Had I been curtailed of all my members, racked by the gout and gravel, deprived of liberty, robbed of an only child, or vifited with the death of a dear friend like you, philosophy might have contributed to my confolation, but will philosophy pay my debts, or free me from the burden of

obligation to a set of fellows whom I dispise? fpeak—pronounce—demonstrate—or may Heaven close your mouth for ever!"

" These are the comfortable fruits of your misanthropy, (answered the youth,) your laudable scheme of detaching yourself from the bonds of fociety, and of moving in a fuperior fphere of your own. Had not you been fo peculiarly fage, intent upon laughing at mankind, you could never have been disconcerted by such a pitiful inconvenience: any friend would have accommodated you with the fum in question. But now the world may retort the laugh: for you stand upon such an agreeable footing with your acquaintance, that nothing could please them better than an account of your having given disappointment the slip, by the help of a noose properly applied. This I mention by way of hint, upon which I would have you chew the cud of reflection; and should it come to that iffue, I will use my whole interest with the coroner, to bring in his verdict Lunacy, that your carcafe may have christian burial."

So saying, he withdrew, very well satisfied with the revenge he had taken, which operated so violently upon Crabtree, that if it had not been for the sole consideration mentioned above, he would, in all probability, have had recourse to the remedy proposed. But his unwillingness to oblige and entertain his fellow-creatures, hindered him from practising that expedient; till, by course of post, he was happily undeceived

with regard to the fituation of his affairs; and that information had such an effect upon him, that he not only forgave our hero for the stratagem, which he immediately ascribed to the right author, but also made him a tender of his purse; so that matters, for the present, were brought to an amicable accommodation.

Mean-while, Peregrine never flacked in his attendance upon the great; he never omitted to appear upon every levee-day, employed his industry and penetration in getting intelligence of posts that were unfilled, and every day recommended himself to the good offices of his patron, who seemed to espouse his interest with great cordiality: nevertheless, he was always too late in his application, or the place he demanded chanced to be out of the minister's gift.

These intimations, though communicated in the most warm professions of friendship and regard, gave great umbrage to the young gentleman, who considered them as the evasions of an insincere courtier, and loudly complained of them as such to his lordship, signifying, at the same time, an intention to sell his mortgage for ready money, which he would expend to the last farthing in thwarting his honour, in the very first election he should patronize. His lordship never wanted a proper exhortation upon these occasions: he did not now endeavour to pacify him with assurances of the minister's favour, because he perceived that these medicines had, by repeated use,

lost their effect upon our adventurer, whose menaces he now combated by representing that the minister's purse was heavier than that of Mr Pickle; that therefore, should he make a point of opposing his interest, the youth must infallibly fail in the contest: in which case, he would find himself utterly destitute of the means of subsistence, and consequently precluded from all hope of provision.

This was an observation, the truth of which our young gentleman could not pretend to doubt, though it did not at all tend to the vindication of his Honour's conduct. Indeed Pickle began to suspect the fincerity of his own patron, who, in his opinion, had trifled with his impatience, and even eluded, by forry excuses, his desire of having another private audience of the first mover. His lordship also began to be less accessible than usual; and Peregrine had been obliged to dun the steward with repeated demands, before he could finger the last quarter of his interest.

Alarmed by these considerations, he went and consulted the nobleman, whom he had obliged in the affair of his son; and had the mortification to hear but a very indifferent character of the person in whom he had so long consided. This new adviser, who (though a courtier) was a rival of the other, gave our adventurer to understand, that he had been leaning upon a broken reed; that his professed patron was a man of a shattered fortune and decayed interest, which extended

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no farther than a smile and a whisper; that, for his own part, he should have been proud of an opportunity to use his influence with the minister in behalf of Mr Pickle: "But, fince you have put yourfelf under the protection of another peer, (faid he) whose connexions interfere with mine, I cannot now espouse your cause, without incurring the imputation of feducing that nobleman's adherents; a charge which, of all others, I would most carefully avoid. However, I shall always be ready to affift you with my private advice, as a specimen of which, I now counsel you to insist upon having another interview with Sir Steady Steerwell himfelf, that you may in person explain your pretentions, without any rifk of being mifrepresented; and endeavour, if possible, to draw him into some particular promise, from which he cannot retract, with any regard to his reputation: for general profession is a necessary armour, worn by all ministers in their own defence, against the importunity of those whom they will not befriend, and would not difoblige."

This advice was fo conformable to his own fentiments, that our adventurer seized the first opportunity to demand an hearing; and plainly told his patron, that if he could not be indulged with that favour, he should look upon his lordthip's influence to be very small, and his own hopes to be altogether desperate: in which case, he was refolved to dispose of the mortgage, purchase an annuity, and live independent.

# C H A P. XCI.

He is indulged with a second audience by the minister, of whose sincerity he is convinced. His pride and ambition revive, and again are mortified.

TF the young gentleman's money had been in other hands, perhaps the peer would have been at very little pains, either in gratifying his demand; or oppoling his revenge; but he knew that the fale of the mortgage could not be effected without an inquiry, to which he did not wifh to be exposed. He therefore employed all his interest in procuring the solicited audience. This being granted, Peregrine, with great warmth and elocution, expatiated upon the injury his fortune had fuffered in the affair of the borough for which he had flood candidate; he took notice of the difappointment he had fultained in the other election, reminded him of the promifes with which he had been amused, and, in conclusion, desired to know what he had to expect from his favour.

The minister having patiently heard him to an end, replied with a most gracious aspect, that he was very well informed of his merit and attachment, and very much disposed to convince him of the regard which he paid to both; that, till of late, he did not know the nature of his expectations, neither had he the power of creating posts for those whom he inclined to serve; but if Mr Pickle:

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could chalk out any feafible method, by which he could manifest his sentiments by friendship, he should not be backward in executing the plan.

Peregrine laying hold on this declaration, mentioned feveral places which he knew to be vacant; but the old evasion was still used: one of them was not in his department of business; another had been promised to the third son of a certain earl, before the death of the last possesfor; and a third was incumbered with a pension that are up a good half of the appointments. Inshort, such obstructions were started to all his proposals, as he could not possibly furmount; though he plainly perceived they were no other than specious pretexts to cover the mortifying fide of a refusal. Exasperated, therefore, at this lack of fincerity and gratitude, "I can eafily forefee, (said he) that such difficulties will never be wanting when I have any thing to ask; and for that reason will save myself the trouble of any. farther application." So faying, he withdrew in a very abrupt manner, breathing defiance and revenge. But his patron, who did not think proper to drive him to extremities, found means to persuade his Honour, to do something for the pacification of the young man's choler: and that same evening our adventurer received a message from his lordship, desiring to see him immediately.

In consequence of this intimation, Pickle went to his house, and appeared before him with a

very cloudy aspect, which signified to whom it might concern, that his temper was at present too much galled to endure reproof; and therefore, the fagacious peer forebore taking him to talk for his behaviour during the audience he had obtained; but gave him to understand, that the minister, in consideration of his services, had sent him a bank-note of three hundred pounds, with. a promise of a like sum yearly, until he could be otherwise provided for. This declaration in some measure appealed the youth, who condescended to accept the present; and next levee-day, made his acknowledgment to the donor, who favoured him with a finile of infinite complacency, which entirely diffipated all the remains of his refentment; for, as he could not possibly divine the true cause of his being temporized with, he looked upon this condescension as an undoubted proof of Sir Steady's fincerity, and firmly believed, that he would fettle him in some place with the first opportunity, rather than continue to pay this pension out of his own pocket. In all probability his prediction would have been verified, had not an unforeseen accident in a moment over whelmed the bark of his interest at court.

Mean-while, this short gleam of good fortune recalled the ideas of pride and ambition, which he had formerly cherished. His countenance was again lifted up, his good humour retrieved, and his mien re-exalted. Indeed he began to be considered as a rising man by his fellow-dependents,

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who faw the particular notice with which he was favoured at the public levee; and some of them, for that reason, were at pains to court his good graces. He no longer shunned his former intimates, with whom a good part of his fortune had been spent, but made up to them in all places of public refort, with the same ease and familiarity as he had been used to express, and even re-imbarked in some of their excesses, upon the strength of his fanguine expectation. Cadwallader and he renewed their confultations in the court of ridicule; and divers exploits were atchieved, to the confution of those who had failed into the North

of their displeasure.

But these enjoyments were soon interrupted by a misfortune equally fatal and unexpected: his noble patron was feized with an apoplectio fit, from which he was recovered by the phylicians, that they might dispatch him according to rule; and, in two months after they were called, he went the way of all flesh. Peregrine was very much afflicted at this event, not only on account of his friendship for the deceased, to whom he though: himfelf undermany and great obligations, but also, because he feared that his own interest would fuffer a fevere shock, by the removal of this nobleman, whom he confidered as its chief support. He put himself therefore in mourning, out of regard to the memory of his departed friend, and exhibited genuine marks of forrow and concern; though he had, in reality, more cause to grieve than he as yet imagined.

When quarter-day came about, he applied to the steward of his lordship's heir for the interest of his money, as usual; and the reader will readily own he had some reason to be surprised, when he was told he had no claim either to principal or interest. True it is, the manager talked very civilly as well as sensibly upon the subject. "Your appearance, Sir, (said he to Pickle) screens you from all suspicion of an intended fraud; but the mortgage upon those lands you mention, was granted to another person many years before you pretend to have lent that sum; and I have, this very morning, paid one quarter's interest, as appears from this receipt, which you may peruse for your satisfaction.

Peregrine was so thunderstruck at this information, which stripped him of his all, that he could not utter one word; a circumstance that did no great honour to his character, in the opinion of the steward, who, in good earnest, began to entertain some doubts of his integrity; for, among the papers of the deceafed, which he had examined, there was no writing, memorandums or receipt, relating to this incumbrance. a long pause of stupefaction, Peregrine recollected himself so far as to observe, that either he was egregiously mistaken, or the predecessor of his lord the greatest villain upon earth. " But, Mr Whatd'yecallum, (faid he) you must give me leave to tell you, that your bare affertion, in this affair, will by no means induce me to put up quietly with the lofs of ten thousand pounds,"

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Having thus expressed himself, he retired from the house, so discontented at this demur, that he scarce knew whether he moved upon his head or heels; and the park chancing to lie in his way, he sauntered about, giving vent to soliloquy in praise of his departed friend, the burden of which was a string of incoherent curses imprecated upon himself; till his transports, by degrees, giving way to his reslection, he deliberated seriously and forrowfully upon his missertune, and resolved to consult lawyers without loss of time. But, first of all, he proposed to make personal application to the heir, who, by a candid representation of the case, might be inclined to do him justice.

In consequence of this determination, he next morning put his writings in his pocket, and went in a chair to the house of the young nobleman, to whom being admitted by virtue of his appearance, and a small gratification to the porter, he explained the whole affair, corroborating his affertions with the papers which he produced, and describing the disgrace that would be entailed upon the memory of the deceased, should he be obliged to seek redress in a public court of justice.

The executor, who was a perfon of good breeding, condoled him upon his loss with great good nature, though he did not seem much surprised at his account of the matter; but wished, that since the fraud must have been committed, the damage had fallen upon the first mortgager, who (he said) was a thievish usurer, grown rich

by the distresses of his fellow-creatures. In anfwer to our hero's remonstrances, he observed, that he did not look upon himself as obliged to pay the least regard to the character of his predecessor, who had used him with great barbarity and injustice, not only in excluding him from his countenance and affistance, but also in prejudicing his inheritance, as much as lay in his power; fo that it could not be reasonably expected, that he would pay ten thousand pounds of his debt, for which he had received no value. Peregrine, in spite of his chagrin, could not help owning within himfelf, that there was a good deal of reason in this refusal. After having given loofe to his indignation, in the most violent invectives against the defunct, he took his leave of the complaifant heir, and had immediate recourse to the advice of counsel, who assured himthat he had an excellent plea, and was accordingly retained in the cause.

All these measures were taken in the first vigour of his exertion, during which his spirits
were so slustered with the diversity of passions
produced by his mischance, that he mistook for
equanimity that which was no other than intoxication; and two whole days elapsed, before he
attained a due sense of his missfortune. Then
indeed he underwent a woeful self-examination;
every circumstance of the inquiry added fresh
pangs to his reslection; and the result of the
whole was a discovery that his fortune was to-

tally confumed, and himself reduced to a state of the most deplorable dependence. This suggestion alone might (in the anguish of his despondency) have driven him to some desperate course, had not it been in some measure qualified by the considence of his lawyers, and the assurance of the minister, which (stender as the world hath generally sound them) were the only bulwarks between misery and him.

The mind is naturally pliable, and, provided it has the least hope to lean upon, adapts itself wonderfully to the emergencies of fortune, especially when the imagination is gay and luxuriant. This was the case with our adventurer; instead of indulging the melancholy ideas which his loss inspired, he had recourse to the flattering delusions of hope, soothing himself with the unsubstantial plans of suture greatness, and endeavouring to cover what was past with the veil of oblivion.

After some hesitation, he resolved to make Crabtree acquainted with his missortune, that once for all he might pass the ordeal of his satire, without subjecting himself to a long series of sareastic hints and doubtful allusions which he could not endure. He accordingly took the first opportunity of telling him that he was absolutely ruined by the persidy of his patron, and defired that he would not aggravate his affliction, by those cynical remarks which were peculiar to men of his misanthropical disposition. Cadwal-

lader listened to this declaration with internal furprise, which, however, produced no alteratiin his countenance; and, after some pause, obferved, that our hero had no reason to look for
any new observation from him upon this event,
which he had long foreseen, and daily expected;
and exhorted him, with an ironical sneer, to
console himself with the promise of the minister,
who would doubtless discharge the debts of his
deceased bosom-friend.

#### CHAP. XCII.

Peregrine commits himself to the public, and is admitted member of a college of authors.

fed, our young gentleman began to revolve within himself schemes for making up the deficiencies of his yearly income, which was now so grievously reduced, and determined to profit in some shape or other by those talents which he owed to nature and education. He had, in his affluence, heard of several authors who, without any pretensions to genius or human literature, earned a very genteel subsistence, by undertaking work for booksellers in which reputation was not at all concerned. One (for example) professed all manner of translation at so much persheet, and actually kept sive or six amanuenses

continually employed like so many clerks in a compting house; by which means he was enabled to live at his ease, and enjoy his friend and his bottle, ambitious of no other character than that of an honest man and a good neighbour. Another projected a variety of plans for new dictionaries which were executed under his eye by day-labourers; and the province of a third was history and voyages, collected or abridged by un-

derstrappers of the same class.

Mr Pickle, in his comparisons, paid such deference to his own capacity as banished all doubts of his being able to excel any of those undertakers, in their different branches of profession, if ever he should be driven to that experiment: but his ambition prompted him to make his interest and glory co-incide by attempting some performances which should do him honour with the public, and at the fame time establish his importance among the copy-purchasers in town. With this view he worshipped the muse; and, conscious of the little regard which is in this age paid to every species of poetic composition, in which neither fatire nor obscenity occurs, he produced an imitation of Juvenal, and lashed some conspicuous characters, with equal truth, spirit, and feverity. Though his name did not appear in the title-page of this production, he managed matters fo, as that the work was univerfally imputed to the true author, who was not altogether disappointed in his expectations of success; for

the impression was immediately sold off, and the piece became the subject of conversation in all assemblies of taste.

This happy exordium not only attracted the addresses of the booksellers, who made interest for his acquaintance, but also roused the notice of a fociety of authors, who styled themselves the college, from which he was honoured with a deputation, offering to enroll him a member by unanimous confent. The person employed for this purpose being a bard who had formerly tasted of our hero's bounty, used all his eloquence to perfuade him to comply with the advances of their fraternity, which he described in such a manner, as inflamed the curiofity of Pickle, who dismissed the embassador, with an acknowledgement of the great honour they conferred upon him, and a faithful promise of endeavouring to merit the continuance of their approbation.

He was afterwards, by the same minister, instructed in the ceremonies of the college; and,
in consequence of his information, composed an
ode, to be publicly recited on the evening of his
introduction. He understood, that this constitution was no other than a body of authors, incorporated by mutual consent, for their joint advantage and satisfaction, opposed to another assembly of the same kind, their avowed enemies and
detractors. No wonder then, that they sought
to strengthen themselves with such a valuable acquisition as our hero was like to prove. The

college confisted of authors only, and these of all degrees in point of reputation, from the sabricator of a song set to music, and sung at Marybone, to the dramatic bard who had appeared in buskins upon the stage: nay, one of the members had actually sinished eight books of an epic poem, for the publication of which, he was, at that

time, foliciting fubscriptions.

It cannot be supposed that such a congregation of the fons of Apollo would fit a whole evening with order and decorum, unless they were under the check of some established authority; and this inconvenience having been foreseen, they had elected a president, vested with full power to silence any member or members, that should attempt to disturb the harmony and subordination of the whole. The fage, who at this time possessed the chair, was a person in years, whose countenance was a lively portraiture of that rancorous discontent which follows repeated damnation. He had been extremely unfortunate in his theatrical productions, and was (to use the words of a profane wag, who affifted at the condemnation of his laft plea) by this time damn'd beyond redemption. Nevertheless, he still tarried about the skirts of Parnassus, translating some of the classics, and writing miscellanies; and, by dint of an invincible affurance, supercilious insolence, the most undaunted virulence of tongue, and some knowledge of life, he made shift to acquire and maintain the character of a man of learning and wit,

in the opinion of people who had neither; that is thirty-nine in forty of those with whom he associated himself. He was even looked upon in this lightby some few of the college; though the major part of those who savoured his election, were such as dreaded his malice, respected his experience and seniority, or hated his competitor,

who was the epic poet.

The chief end of this fociety (as I have already hinted) was to affift and support each other in their productions, which they mutually recommended to fale, with all their art and influence, not only in private conversation, but also in occafional epigrams, criticisms, and advertisements inferted in the public papers. This science, which is known by the vulgar appellation of puffing, they carried to fuch a pitch of finesse, that an author very often wrote an abusive answer to his own performance, in order to inflame the curiofity of the town by whichit had been overlook'd. Notwithstanding this general unanimity in the college, a private animolity had long subsisted between the two rivals I have mentioned, on account of precedence, to which both laid claim, though, by a majority of votes, it had been decided in favour of the present chairman. The grudge indeed never proceeded to any degree of outrage or defiance, but manifested itself at every meeting, in attempts to eclipse each other in smart sayings and pregnant repartee; fo that there was always. a delicate mess of this kind of wit served up in

the front of the evening, for the entertainment and example of the junior members, who never failed to divide upon this occasion, declaring themselves for one or other of the combatants, whom they encouraged by their looks, gestures, and applause, according to the circumstances of the dispute.

This honourable confistory was held in the best room of an ale-house, which afforded wine, punch, or beer, fuitable to the purfe or inclination of every individual, who separately paid for his own choice; and here was our hero introduced in the midst of twenty strangers, who, by their looks and equipage, formed a very picturesque variety. He was received with a most gracious solemnity, and placed upon the right hand of the prefident, who having commanded filence, recited aloud his introductory ode, which met with univerfal approbation. Then was tendered to him the cuftomary oath, obliging him to confult the honour and advantage of the society as far as it should lye in his power in every station of life: and this being taken, his temples were bound with a wreath of laurel, which was kept facred for fuch inauguration.

When these rites were performed with all due ceremony, the new member cast his eyes around the place, and took a more accurate survey of his brethren; among whom he observed a strange collection of perriwigs, with regard to the colour, fashions, and dimensions, which were such as he

had never seen before. Those who sat on each side, nearest the president, were generally distinguished by venerable tyes, the foretops of which exhibited a surprising diversity; some of them rose slanting backwards, like the glacis of a fortification; some were elevated in two distinct eminences, like the hills Helicon and Parnassus; and others were curled and reslected as the horns of Jupiter Ammon. Next to these, the majors took place, many of which were mere succedance, made by the application of an occasional rose to the tail of a lank bob; and in the lower form appeared masses of hair which would admit of no description.

Their cloaths were tolerably well fuited to the furniture of their heads, the apparel of the upper bench being decent and clean, while that of the fecond class was threadbare and folid; and, at the lower end of the room, he perceived divers efforts made to conceal their rent breeches and dirty linen: nay, he could diffinguish by their countenances, the different kinds of poetry in which they exercifed the muse; he saw Tragedy conspicuous in a grave folemnity of regard, Satire louring in a frown of envy and discontent, Elegy whining in a funeral aspect, Pastoral dozing in a most insipid languor of face, Ode-writing delineated in a distracted stare, and Epigram squinting with a pert fneer. Perhaps our hero refined too much in his penetration, when he affirmed, that, over and above these discoveries, he could plain-

ly perceive the state of every one's finances, and would have undertaken to have guessed each particular sum, without varying three farthings from the truth.

The conversation, instead of becoming general, began to fall into parties; and the epic poet had actually attracted the attention of a private committee, when the chairman interposed, calling aloud, " No cabals, no conspiracies, gentlemen." His rival thinking it incumbent upon him to make him some reply to this rebuke, answered, We have no fecrets; he that hath ears, let him hear." This was spoke as an intimation to the company, whose looks were instantly whetted with the expectation of their ordinary meal: but the president seemed to decline the contest; for, without putting on his fighting face, he calmly replied, that he had seen Mr Metaphor tip the wink, and whifper to one of his confederates, and thence judged, that there was fomething mysterious on the carpet.

The epic poet, believing his antagonist crest-sallen, resolved to take the advantage of his dejection, that he might enhance his own character in the opinion of the stranger, and with that view asked, with an air of exultation, If a man might not be allowed to have a convulsion in his eye, without being suspected of a conspiracy. The president perceiving his drift, and piqued at his presumption, "To be sure, (said he, a man of a weak head may be very well supposed to have convulsions in his eyes." This repartee produced a laugh of triumph among the chairman's adherents; one of whom observed, that his rival had got a smart rap on the pate. " Yes (replied the bard) in that respect Mr Chairman has the advantage of me. Had my head been fortified with a horn-work, I should not have been so fensible of the stroke." This retort, which carried a fevere allusion to the president's wife, lighted up the countenances of the aggressor's friends, which had begun to be a little obumbrated; and had a contrary effect upon the other faction, till their chief, collecting all his capacity, returned the falute, by observing, that there was no occasion for an horn-work, when the covered way was not worth defending.

Such a reprizal upon Mr Metaphor's yoke-fellow, who was by no means remarkable for her beauty, could not fail to operate upon the hearers; and as for the bard himself, he was evidently russed by the reslection; to which, however, he, without hesitation, replied, "Egad! 'tis my opinion, that if your covered way was laid open, sew people would venture to give the assault." "Not unless their batteries were more effectual than the fire of your wit," (said the president.) "As for that matter, (cried the other with precipitation,) they would have no occasion to batter in breach; they would find the angle of the lapucelle bastion demolished to their hand; he, he!" "But I believe it would surpass your un-

derstanding, (resumed the chairman,) to fill up the fossee." "That, I own, is impracticable, (replied the bard) there I should meet with an hiatus maxime dessendus!"

The president, exasperated at this infinuation in presence of the new member, exclaimed with indignation in his looks, "And yet, if a body of pioneers were set at work upon your skull, they would find rubbish enough to chook up all the common sewers in town." Herea groan was uttered by the admirers of the epic poet, who, taking a pinch of snuff with great composure, "When a man grows scurrisous, (said he) Itake it for an undoubted proof of his overthrow." "If that be the case, (cried the other) you yourself must be the vanquished party; for you was the first that was driven to personal abuse." "I appeal (answered the bard) to those who can distinguish. Gentlemen, your judgment!"

This reference produced an univerfal clamour, and the whole college was involved in confusion. Every man entered into dispute with his neighbour, on the merits of this cause. The chairman interposed his authority in vain; the noise grew louder and louder; the disputants waxed warm; the epithets of blockhead, fool, and scoundrel were bandied about. Peregrine enjoyed the uproar, and leaping upon the table, sounded the charge to battle, which was immediately commenced in ten different duels. The lights were extinguished; the combatants threshed one another

without distinction; the mischievous Pickle distributed sundry random blows in the dark; and the people below, being alarmed with the sound of application, the overturning of chairs, and the outeries of those who were engaged, came up stairs in a body, with lights, to reconnoitre, and,

if possible, quell this hideous tumult.

Objects were no sooner rendered visible, than the field of battle exhibited strange groupes of the standing and the fallen. Each of Mr Metaphor's eyes was furrounded with a circle of a livid hue; and the president's nose distilled a quantity of clotted blood. One of the tragic authors, finding himfelf affaulted in the dark, had, by way of a pionard, employed upon his adversaries throat a knife which lay upon the table for the convenience of cutting cheefe; but, by the bleffing of God, the edge of it was not keen enough to enter the skin, which it had only scratched in divers places. A fatirist had almost bit off the ear of a lyrie-bard. Shirts and neckcloths were torn to rags; and there was fuch a woeful wreck of perriwigs on the floor, that no examination could adjust the property of the owners, the greatest part of whom were obliged to use handkerchiefs by way of night-caps.

The fray, however, ceased at the approach of those who interposed; part of the combatants being tired of an exercise in which they had received nothing but hard blows; part of them being intimidated by the remonstrances of the

landlord and his company, who threatened to call the watch: and a very few being ashamed of the scandalous dispute in which they were detected. But though the battle was ended, it was impossible, for that evening, torestore harmony and good order to the fociety, which broke up after the president had pronounced a short and confused apology to our adventurer, for the indecent uproar which had unfortunately happened on the first night of his admission.

Indeed, Peregrine deliberated with himfelf, whether or not his reputation would allow him to appear again among this venerable fraternity; but, as he knew some of them to be men of real genius, how ridiculous soever their carriage might be modified, and was of that laughing disposition, which is always feeking food for mirth, as Horace

observes of Phillippus,

### Rifus undique quarit;

he resolved to frequent the college, notwithflanding this accident which happened at his inauguration; being thereto, moreover, induced by his defire of knowing the private history of the stage, with which he supposed some of the members perfectly well acquainted. He was also vifited before the next meeting by his introductor, who affored him that fuch a tumult had never happened fince the first institution of the assembly till that very night: and promifed, that for the future, he should have no cause to be scandalized at their behaviour.

Perfuaded by these motives and assurances, he trusted himself once more in the midst of their community, and every thing proceeded with great decorum; all dispute and altercation was avoided, and the college applied itself seriously to the purposes of its meeting, namely, to hear the grievances of individuals, and assist them with salutary advice. The first person that craved redress, was a noisy North Briton, who complained (in a strange dialed, that he had, in the beginning of the season, presented a comedy to the manager of a certain theatre, who, after it had lain six weeks in his hands, returned it to the author, assisting there was neither sense or English in the performance.

The president, (who, by-the-bye, had revised the piece) thinking his own reputation concerned, declared, in presence of the whole society, that, with regard to sense, he would not undertake to vindicate the production; but, in point of language, no fault could be justly laid to its charge: "The case, however, is very plain, (said he) the manager never gave himself the trouble to peruse the play, but formed a judgment of it from the conversation of the author, never dreaming that it had undergone the revisal of an English writer; be that as it will, you are infinitely obliged to him for having dispatched you so soon, and I shall have the better opinion of him

for it so long as I live; for I have known otherguise authors than you (that is, in point of interest and same) kept in continual attendance and dependance during the best part of their lives, and after all disappointed in the expectation of seeing their performances exhibited on the stage.

#### C H A P. XCIII.

Further proceedings of the college.

THIS affair was no fooner discussed, than another gentleman exhibited a complaint, fignifying that he had undertaken to translate into English a certain celebrated author, who had been cruelly mangled by former attempts; and that, as foon as his defign took air, the proprietors of those miserable translations had endeavoured to prejudife his work, by industrious infinuations, contrary to truth and fair dealing, importing, that he did not understand one word of the language which he pretended to translate. This being a cafe that nearly concerned the greatest part of the audience, it was taken into ferious deliberation; some observed, that it was not only a malicious effort against the plaintiff, but also a spiteful advertisement to the public, tending to promote an inquiry into the abilities of all other translators, few of whom (it is well known) were fo qualified as to stand the test of such examination. Others faid, that over and above this con-

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fideration, which ought to have its due weight with the college, there was a necessity for concerting measures to humble the presumption of bookfellers, who had, from time immemorial, taken all opportunities to oppress and enslave their authors; not only by limiting men of genius to the wages of journeymen taylors, without even allowing them one fabbath in the week, but also in taking such advantages of their necessities, as were inconsistent with justice and humanity. " For example (faid one of the members) after I myself had acquired a little reputation with the town, I was careffed by one of those tyrants, who professed a friendship for me, and even supplied me with money, according to the exigencies of my fituation; fo that I looked upon him as the mirrour of difinterested benevolence; and, had he known my disposition, and treated me accordingly, I should have writ for him upon his own terms. After I had used his friendship in this manner for fome time, I happened to have occasion for a small sum of money, and with great confidence made another application to my good friend; when all of a sudden he put a stop to his generofity, refused to accommodate me in the most abrupt and mortifying flyle; and though I was at that time pretty far advanced in a work for his benefit, which was a fufficient fecurity for what I owed him, he roundly asked how I proposed to pay the money which I had already borrowed. Thus was I used, like a young whore just come VOL. IV. L

upon the town, whom the bawd allows to run into her debt, that the may have it in her power to oppress her at pleasure; and if the sufferer complain, the is treated like the most ungrateful wretch poon earth; and that too with fuch appearance of reason, as may easily mislead an unconcerned spectator. "You unthankful drab! (she will fay,) didn't I take you into my house when you hadn't a shift to your back, a petticoat to your tail, nor a morfel of bread to put into your belly? Ha'n't I cloathed you from head to foot like a gentlewoman, supported you with board, lodging, and all necessaries, till your own extravagance hath brought you into distress; and now you have the impudence, you nefty flinking brimftone bungaway! to fay you are hardly dealt with, when I demand no more than my own." Thus the whore and the author is equally oppressed, and even left without the melancholy privilege of complaining; fo that they are fain to subscribe to such terms as their creditors shall please to impose."

This illustration operated so powerfully upon the conviction and resentment of the whole college, that revenge was universally denounced against those who had aggrieved the plaintiss; and, after some debate, it was agreed, that he should make a new translation of some other saleable book, in opposition to a sormer version belonging to the delinquents, and print it in such a small size, as would enable him to undersell their property; and that this new translation should be

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recommended and introduced into the world with the whole art and influence of the fociety.

This affair being fettled to the farisfaction of all present, an author of some character stood up and craved the advice and affiltance of his fellows, in punishing a certain nobleman of great pretenfions to talte, who, in confequence of a production which this gentleman had ushered into the world with universal applause, not only defired but even eagerly courted his acquaintance. invited me to his house, (said he,) where I was overwhelmed with civility and professions of friendship. He insisted upon my treating him as an intimate, and calling upon him at all hours without ceremony; he made me promise to breakfast with him at least three times a week. In short. I looked upon myself as very fortunate, in meeting with fuch advances from a man of his interest and reputation; who had it in his power to befriend me effectually in my passage through life; and that I might not give him any cause to think I neglected his friendship, I went to his house in two days, with a view of drinking chocolate, according to appointment: but he had been fo much fatigued with dancing at an affembly over night, that his valet de chambre would not venture to wake him fo early; and I left my compliments to his Lordship, with a performance in manufcript, which he had expressed a most eager desire to peruse. I repeated my visit next morning, that his impatience to fee me might not have

fome violent effect upon his constitution; and received a meffage from his minister, signifying, that he had been highly entertained with the manuscript I had left, a great part of which he had read, but was at prefent fo busy in contriving a proper dress for a private masquerade, which would be given that same evening, that he could not have the pleasure of my company at breakfast. This was a feafible excuse, which I admitted accordingly, and in a day or two appeared again, when his Lordship was particularly engaged. This might possibly be the case; and therefore I returned the fourth time, in hopes of finding him more at leifure; but he had gone out about half an hour before my arrival, and left my performance with his valet de chambre, who affured me, that his Lord had perused it with infinite pleasure. Perhaps I might have retired very well fatisfied with this declaration, had not I, in my passage through the hall, heard one of the footmen, upon the top of the stair-case, pronounce with an audible voice, " Will your Lordship please to be at home, when he calls?" It is not to be supposed that I was pleased at this discovery, which I no fooner made, than turning to my conductor, " I find, (faid I,) his Lordship is disposed to be abroad to more people than me this morning." The fellow (tho' a valet de chambre) blushed at this observation; and I withdrew, not a little irritated at the peer's difingenuity, and fully refolved to spare him my visits for the future. It was

not long after this occasion that I happened to meet him in the Park, and being naturally civil, I could not pass him without a salutation of the hat, which he returned in the most distant manner, though we were both solitary, and not a soul within view; and when that very performance, which he had applauded so warmly, was lately published by subscription, he did not bespeak so much as one copy. I have often reslected with wonder upon this inconsistency in his conduct. I never courted his patronage, nor indeed thought of his name, until he made interest for my acquaintance; and if he was disappointed in my conversation, why did he press me so much to surther connexison?"

" The case is very clear, (cried the chairmant interrupting him,) he is one of those connoisseurs who fet up for tafte, and value themselves upon knowing all men of genius, whom they would be thought to affist in their productions. I will law an even bet with any man, that his Lordship, on the firength of that flender interview, together with the opportunity of having feen your performance in manuscript, has already hinted to every company in which he is conversant, that you solicited his affiftance in retouching the piece which you have now offered to the public, and that he was pleased to favour you with his advice, but found you obstinately bigotted to your own opinion, in some points relating to those very passages which have not met with the approbation of the

town. As for his careffes, there was nothing at all extraordinary in his behaviour. By the time you have lived to my age, you will not be furprifed to fee a courtier's promife and performance of a different complexion; not but that I would wilingly act as an auxiliary in your refentment.

The opinion of the prefident was strengthened by the concurrence of all the members; and all other complaints and memorials being deferred till another sitting, the college proceeded to an exercise of wit, which was generally performed once every fortnight, with a view to promote the expectoration of genius. The subject was occasionally chosen by the chairman, who opened the game with some shrewd remark naturally arising from the conversation; and then the ball was tossed about from one corner of the room to the other, according to the motions of the spirit.

That the reader may have a just idea of this sport, and of the abilities of those who carried it on, I shall repeat the sallies of this evening, according to the order and succession in which they escaped. One of the members observing that Mr Metaphor was absent, was told by the person that fat next to him, that the poet had foul weather at home, and could not stir abroad. "What! (said the president interposing, with the signal upon his countenance) is he wind-bound in port?" "Wine-bound I suppose," (cried another.) "Hooped with wine! a strange metaphor!" (said the third.) "Not if he has got

into a hoghead," (answered a fourth.) " The hogshead will fooner get into him, (replied a fifth). "it must be a tun or an ocean." "No wonder then, if he should be overwhelmed," (faid a fixth.) " If he should, (cried a seventh) he will cast up when his gall breaks." " That must be very foon, (roared an eighth) for it has been long ready to burft." " No, no, (observed a ninth) he'll flick fast at the bottom, take my word for it; he has a natural alacrity in finking." " And yet. (remarked a tenth) I have feen him in the clouds." "Then he was cloudy, I suppose," (cried the eleventh.) "So dark, (replied the other) that his meaning could not be perceived." " For all that (faid the twelfth) he is eafy feen through." "You talk (answered the thirteenth) as if his head was made of glass." No, no, (cried a fourteenth) his head is made of more durable stuff: it will bend before it breaks." " Yet I have feen it broken," (refumed the president.) " Did you perceive any wit come out at the hole?" faid another.) "His wit (replied the chairman) is too fubtile to be perceived."

A third mouth was just opened, when the exercise was suddenly interrupted by the dreadful cry of fire, which issued from the kitchen, and involved the whole college in confusion. Every man endeavouring to be the first in making his exit, the door and passage were blocked up: each individual was pummelled by the person that happened to be behind him. This communication

produced noise and exclamation; clouds of smoke rolled upwards into the apartment, and terror fat on every brow; when Peregrine feeing no prospect of retreating by the door, opened one of the windows, and fairly leapt into the street, where he found a croud of people affembled to contribute their affiftance in extinguishing the flames. Several members of the college followed his example, and happily accomplished their efcape: the chairman himself being unwilling to use the same expedient, flood trembling on the brink of the descent, dubious of his own agility, and dreading the consequence of such a leap, when a chair happening to pass, he laid hold on the opportunity, and by an exertion of his muscles pitched. upon the top of the carriage, which was immediately overturned in the kennel, to the grievous annoyance of the fare, which happened to be a certain effeminate beau, in full dress, on his way. to a private affembly.

This phantom hearing the noise overhead, and feeling the shock of being overthrown, at the same time, thought that some whole tenement had fallen upon the chair, and, in the terror of being crushed to pieces, uttered a scream which the populace supposed to proceed from the mouth of a woman; and therefore went to his assistance, while the chairmen, instead of ministring to his occasions, no sooner recollected themselves, than they ran in pursuit of their overthrower, who being accustomed to escape from bailists, dived

into a dark alley, and vanishing in a trice; was not visible to any living soul, until he appeared next day on Tower-hill.

The humane part of the mob, who bestirred themselves for relief of the supposed lady, no fooner perceived their mistake in appearance of the beau, who stared around him with horror and affright, than their compassion was changed into mirth, and they began to pass a great many unfavoury jokes upon his misfortune, which they now discovered no inclination to alleviate; and he found himfelf very uncomfortably befet, when Pickle pitying his fituation, interposed in his behalf, and prevailed upon the chairmen to carry him into the house of an apothecary in the neighbourhood, to whom his mischance proved a very advantageous accident; for the fright operated fo violently upon his nerves that he was feized with a delirium, and lay a whole fortnight deprived of his fenses; during which period he was not neglected in point of medicines, food, and attendance, but royally regaled, as appeared by the contents of his landlord's bill.

Our adventurer having seen this unfortunate beau safely housed, returned to the scene of the other calamity, which, as it was no other than a foul chimney, soon yielded to the endeavours of the family, and was happily overcome, without any other bad consequence than that of alarming the neighbours, disturbing the college, and disordering the brain of a beau.

Eager to be acquainted with the particular constitutions of a society which seemed to open upon him by degrees, Mr Pickle did not fail to appear at the next meeting, when feveral petitions were laid before the board, in behalf of thefe members who were confined in the prisons of the Fleet, Marshalfea, and King's bench. As those unhappy authors expected nothing from their brethren but advice and good offices, which did not concern the purfe, the memorials were confidered with great care and humanity; and upon this occasion, Peregrine had it in his power to manifest his importance to the community; for he happened to be acquainted with the creditor of one of the prisoners, and knew that gentleman's severity was owing to his resentment at the behaviour of the debtor, who had lampooned him in print, because he refused to comply with a fresh demand, after he had lent him money to the amount of a confiderable fum. Our young gentleman therefore understanding that the author was penitent, and disposed to make a reasonable fubmission, promised to employ his influence with the creditor towards an accommodation; and in a few days actually obtained his releafe.

These social duties being discharged, the converfation took a general turn, and several new productions were freely criticised; those especially which belonged to authors who were either unconnected with or unknown to the college. Nor did the profession of stage-playing escape the cognizance of the assembly; a deputation of the most judicious members being sent weekly to each theatre, with a view of making remarks upon the performance of the actors. The censors for the preceeding week were accordingly called upon to give in their report; and the play which they had reviewed was the Revenge.

Mr Q-(faid the fecond cenfor, take him all in all) is certainly the most compleat and unblemished performer that ever appeared on our stage. notwithstanding the blind adoration which is paid to his rival. I went two nights ago, with an expreis design to criticise his action: I could find no room forcensure, but infinite subject for admiration and applause. In Pierre he is great, in Othello excel lent, but in Zanga beyond all imitation. Over and above the distinct ness of pronunciation, the dignity of attitude and expression of face, his gestures are so just and fignificant, that a man, though utterly bereft of the fense of hearing, might, by feeing him only, understand the meaning of every word he speaks! Sure nothing can be more exquisite than his manner of telling Isabella how Alonzo behaved when he found the incendiary letter which he haddropt by the Moor's direction : and when, to crown his vengeance, he discovers himself to be the contriver of all the mischief that had happened, he manifests a perfect master-piece of action, in pronouncing these four little monofyllables, Know then, 'twas-1.

Peregrine having eyed the critic some minutes,

"I fancy (said he) your praise must be ironical, because, in the very two situations you mention, I think I have seen that player out-herod Herod, or, in other words, exceed all his other extravagancies. The intention of the author is, that the Moor should communicate to his considente a piece of information contained in a few lines, which doubtless ought to be repeated with an air of eagerness and satisfaction, not with the ridiculous grimace of a monkey, to which, me-thought, his action bore an intimate resemblance, in uttering this plain sentence:

——he took it up;
But scarce was it unfolded to his sight,
When he, as if an arrow pierc'd his eye,
Started, and trembling dropt it on the ground.

In pronouncing the two first words, this egregious actor stoops down, and seems to take up something from the stage, then proceeding to repeat
what follows, mimicks the manner of unfolding
the letter; when he mentions the simile of an arrow piercing the eye, he darts his foresinger towards that organ, then recoils with great violence
when the word started is expressed; and when he
comes to trembling dropt it on the ground, he
throws all his limbs into a tremulous motion, and
shakes the imaginary paper from his hand. The
latter part of the description is carried on with
the same minute gesticulation, while he says,

Pale and aghast a while my victim stood, Disguis'd a sigh or two, and puff'd them from him;

Then rubb'd his brow, and took it up again.

The player's countenance assumes a wild stare, he sighs twice most piteously, as if he were on the point of suffocation, scrubs his forehead, and bending his body, apes the action of snatching an object from the sloor. Nor is this dexterity of dumb shew omitted, when he concludes his intimation in these three lines:

At first, he look'd as if he meant to read it;
But, check'd by rising fears, he crush'd it thus,
And thrust it like an adder in his bosom.

Here the judicious performer intimates the confusion and concern of Alonzo, seems to cast his eyes upon something, from which they are imimmediately withdrawn, with horror and precipitation, then shutting his sist with a violent squeeze, as if he intended to make immediate application to Isabella's nose, he rams it in his own bosom, with all the horror and agitation of a thief taken in the manner. Were the player debarred the use of speech, and obliged to act to the eyes only of the audience, this mimickry might be a necessary conveyance of his meaning; but when he is at liberty to signify his ideas by language, nothing can be more trivial, forced, un-

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natural, and antic, than this superfluous mummery. Not that I would exclude from the reprefentation the graces of action, without which the choicest sentiments, clothed in the most exquisite expression, would appear unanimated and insipid; but these are as different from this ridiculous burlesque, as is the demeanour of a Tully in the rostrum, from the tricks of a jack pudding on a mountebank's flage: and for the truth of what I alledge, I appeal to the observation of any perfon who has confidered the elegance of attitude and propriety of gesture, as they are universally acknowledged in the real characters of life. Indeed I have known a Gascon, whose limbs were as eloquent as his tongue: he never mentioned the word fleep without reclining his head upon his hand; when he had occasion to talk of an horse, he always started up and trotted across the room, except when he was fo fituated that he could not fir without incommoding the company, and in that case he contented himself with neighing aloud: if a dog happened to be the subject of his conversation, he wagged his tail, and grined in a most fignificant manner; and one day he expressed his desire of going backwards with such natural imitation of his purpofe, that every body in the room firmly believed he had actually over-That himself, and fortified their nostrils accordingly. Yet no man ever looked upon this virtuofo to be the standard of propriety in point of speaking and deportment. For my own part, I confess

the player in question would, by dint of these qualifications, make a very good figure in the character of Pantaloon's lacquey, in the entertainment of Perseus and Andromeda, and perhaps might acquire fome reputation, by turning the Revenge into a pantomime; in which case, I would advise him to come upon the stage, provided with an handful of flour, in order to befinear his face, when he pronounces pale and aghaft, &c. and methinks he ought to illustrate the adder with an hideous hiss. But let us now come to the other fituation, in which this modern Æsopus is suppofed to diffinguish himself so much, I mean that fame eclairciffement comprehended in Know then, 'twas-I. His manner, I own, may be altered fince I was present at the representation of that performance; but certain I am, when I beheld him in that critical conjuncture, his behaviour appeared to me fo uncouth, that I really imagined he was visited by some epileptic distemper; for he stood tottering and gasping for the space of two minutes, like a man fuddenly struck with the palley; and after various distortions and sideshakings, as if he had got fleas in his doublet, heaved up from his lungs the letter I, like a huge anchor from foul ground."

This criticism was acceptable to the majority of the college, who had no great veneration for the player in question; and his admirer, without making any reply, asked in a whisper of the gentleman who sat next to him, if Pickle had not offer-

ed fome production to the stage and met with a repulse.

#### CHAP. XCIV.

The young gentleman is introduced to a virtuofo of the first order, and commences Yelper.

Itherto Peregrine had professed himself an author, without reaping the fruits of that occupation, except the little fame he had acquired by his late fatire; but now he thought it high time to weigh folid pudding against empty praise; and therefore engaged with some bookfellers in a certain translation, which he obliged himself to perform for the confideration of two hundred pounds. The articles of agreement being drawn. he began his talk with great eagerness, rose early in the morning to his work, at which he laboured all day long, went abroad with the bats in the evening, and appeared in the coffee-house, where he amused himself with the news-papersand conversation till nine o'clock; then he retired to his own apartment, and after a flight repall, betook himself to rest, that he might be able to unrooft with the cock. This fudden change from his former way of life agreed so ill with his disposition, that for the first time he was troubled with flatulencies and indigestion, which produced anxiety and dejection of spirits, and the nature of his fituation began in some measure to discom-

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pose his brain; a discovery which he no sooner made, than he had recourse to the advice of a young physician, who was a member of the college of authors, at this time one of our hero's

most intimate acquaintance.

The fon of Æsculapius having considered his case, imputed his diforder to the right cause, namely, want of exercise : diffuaded him from such close application to study, until he should be gradually familiarized to a fedentary life, advised him to enjoy his friend and his bottle in moderation, and wean himfelf from his former customs by degrees; and, above all things, to rife immediately after his first sleep, and exercise himself in a morning walk. In order to render this last part of the prescription the more palatable, the doctor promised to attend him in these early excursions, and even to introduce him to a certain personage of note, who gave a fort of publie breakfalling to the minor virtuoli of the age. and often employed his interest in behalf of those who properly cultivated his countenance and approbation.

This proposal was extremely acceptable to our young gentleman, who, besides the advantage which might accrue to him from such a valuable connection, foresaw much entertainment and satisfaction in the discourse of so many learned guests. The occasions of his health and interest, moreover, coincided in another circumstance; the minister's levee being kept becomes in the morne-

ing; fo that he could perform his walk, yield his attendance, and breakfast at this philosophical board, without encroaching a great deal upon his avocations.

Measures being thus preconcerted, the physician conducted our adventurer to the house of this celebrated fage, to whom he recommended him as a gentleman of genius and taffe, who craved the honour of his acquaintance; but he had previously smoothed the way to this introduction, by representing Peregrine as a young fellow of great ambition, spirit and address, who could not fail to make a figure in the world; therefore, he would be a creditable addition to the subordinates of fuch a patron, and by his qualifications, intrepidity, and warmth of temper, turn out a fummate herald of his fame. Upon these considerations, he met with a most engaging reception from the entertainer, who was a well-bred man, of some learning, generofity, and safte; but his foible was the defire of being thought the inimitable pattern of all the three.

It was with a view to inquire and support this character, that his house was open to all those who had any pretension to literature; consequently he was surrounded by a strange variety of pretenders; but none were discouraged, because he knew that even the most insignificant might in some shape, conduce to the propagation of his praise. A babbler, though he cannot run upon the scent, may spring the game, and by his yelping

help to fill up the cry: no wonder then, that a youth of Pickle's accomplishments was admitted and even invited into the pack. After having enjoyed a very short private audience in the clofet, our young gentleman was shown into another room, where half a dozen of his fellow-adherents waited for their Mæcenas, who, in a few minutes, appeared with a most gracious aspect, received the compliments of the morning, and sat down to breakfast in the midst of them, without any further ceremony.

The conversation at first turned upon the weather, which was investigated in a very philosophical manner by one of the company, who feemed to have consulted all the barometers and thermometers that ever were invented, before he would venture to affirm that it was a chill morning. This subject being accurately discussed, the chief inquired about the news of the learned world: and his inclination was no fooner expressed than every guest opened his mouth, in order to gratify his curiofity : but he that first captivated his intention was a meagre, shrivelled antiquary, who looked like an animated mummy, which had been fcorched among the fands of the defart. He told the patron, that he had by accident met with a medal, which, though it was defaced by time, he would venture to pronounce a genuine antique, from the ringing and tafte of the metal, aswell as from the colour and composition of the rust: so saying, he produced a piece of copper-

coin fo confumed and disguised by age, that scarce a vestage of the impression was to be perceived. Nevertheless, this connoisseur pretended to distinguish a face in profile, from which he concluded that the piece was of the Upper empire, and on the reverse he endeavoured to point out the bulb of the spear, and part of the parozonium. which were the infignia of the Romam Virtus. together with the fragment of one fold of the multicium in which she was cloathed. He likewise had discovered an angle of the letter N, and, at fome distance, an entire I : from these circumstances conjecturing, and indeed concluding that the medal was struck by Severus, in honour of the victory he obtained over his rival Niger, after he had forced the passes of mount Taurus. This criticism seemed very fatisfactory to the entertainer, who having examined the coin by the help of his spectacles, plainly discerned the particulars which the owner had mentioned, and was pleafed to term his account of the matter a very ingenious explanation.

The curiofity was circulated through the hands of all prefent, and every virtuolo, in his turn, licked the copper, and rung it upon the hearth, declaring his affent to the judgment which had been pronounced. At length, it fell under the inspection of our young gentleman, who, though no antiquarian, was very well acquainted with the current coin of his own country, and no sooner cast his eyes upon the valuable antique,

than he affirmed, without hesitation, that it was no other than the ruins of an English farthing, and that same spear, parazonium and multicium, the remains of the emblems and drapery with which the figure of Britannia is delineated on

our copper-money.

This hardy affeveration feemed to disconcert the patron, while it incensed the medalist, who, grinning like an enraged baboon, "What d'ye tell me of a brass farthing? (said he:) Did you ever know modern brass of such a relish? Do but taste it, young gentleman; and sure I am, if you have ever been conversant with subjects of this kind, you will find as wide a difference in the savour between this and an English farthing, as can possibly be perceived betwixt an onion and a turnip: besides, this medal has the true Corinthian ring, then the attitude is upright; whereas that of Britannia is reclining; and how is it possible to mistake a branch of palm for a parazonium?"

All the rest of the company! espoused the virtuoso's side of the question, because the reputation of each was concerned. The patron sinding himself in the same circumstance, assumed a solemnity of feature, dashed with a small mixture of displeasure, and told Peregrine, that as he had not made that branch of literature his particular study, he was not surprised to see him mistaken in his opinion. Pickle immediately understood the reproof. Though he was shocked at the vanity or insatuation of his entertainer and fellow-

guests, asked pardon for his presumption, which was accordingly excused, in consideration of his inexperience; and the English farthing dignished

with the title of a true antique.

The next person that addressed himself to the chief was a gentleman of a very mathematical turn, who valued himself upon the improvements he had made in feveral domestic machines, and now prefented the plan of a new contrivance, for cutting cabbages, in fuch a manner as would fecure the flock against the rotting rain, and enable it to produce a plenteous after-crop of delicious sprouts. In this important machine he had united the whole mechanic powers, with fuch maffy complication of iron and wood, that it could not have been moved without the affishance of an horse, and a road made for the convenience of the draught. These objections were so obvious, that they occurred at first fight of the inspector-general, who greatly commended the invention, which, he observed, might be applied to several otheruseful purposes, could it once be rendered a little more portable and commodious.

The inventor, who had not foreseen these disficulties, was not prepared to surmount them; but he took the hint in good part, and promised to task his abilities anew, in altering the constitution of his design. Not but that he underwent some severe irony from the rest of the virtuosi, who complimented him upon the momentous improvement he had made, by which a family might fave a dish of greens in a quarter, for so trifling an expence as that of purchasing, working and maintaining fuch a stupendous machine: but no man was ever more farcastic in his remarks upon this piece of mechanism than the naturalist, who next appealed to the patron's approbation for a curious disquisition he had made touching the procreation of muck flies, in which he had laid down a curious method of collecting, preferving, and hatching the eggs of these insects, even in the winter, by certain modifications of artificial heat. The nature of this discovery was no fooner communicated, than Peregrine, unable to contain himself, was seized with a fit of laughter, which infected every person at the table, the landlord himself not excepted, who found it impossible to preserve his wonted gravity of face.

Such unmannerly mirth did not fail to mortify the philosopher, who, after some pause, during which indignation and disdain were painted in his countenance, reprehending our young gentleman for his unphilosophical behaviour, and undertook to prove, that the subject of his inquiry was of infinite consequence to the progress and increase of natural knowledge: but he found no quarter from the vengeful engineer, who now retorted his ironical compliments, with great emphasis, upon this hot-bed for the generation of vermin, and advised him to lay the whole process before the Royal Society, which would, doubtless, present him with a medal, and give him a place a-

mong their memoirs, as a distinguished promoter of the useful arts. " If (faid he) you had employed your studies in finding out some effectual method to destroy those insects which prejudise and annoy mankind, in all probability you must have been contented with the contemplation of the good you had done; but this curious expedient for multiplying maggots, will furely entitle you to an honourable rank in the lift of learned philosophers." "I don't wonder (replied the naturalist) that you should be so much averse to the propagation of infects, because, in all likelihood, you are afraid that they will not leave you a cabbage to cut down with the same miraculous machine." "Sir, (answered the mechanic, with great bitterness of voice and aspect) if the cabbage be as light-headed as fome muck-worm philosophers, it will not be worth cutting down." "I never dispute upon cabbage with the son of a cucumber," faid the fly-breeder, alluding to the pedigree of his antagonist; who, impatient of the affront, started up with fury in his looks, exclaiming, "Sdeath! meaning me, Sir?"

Here the patron, perceiving things drawing towards a rupture, interposed his authority, rebuking them for their intemperance, and recommending to them amity and concord against the Goths and Vandals of the age, who took all opportunities of ridiculing and discouraging the adherents of knowledge and philosophy. After this exhortation, they had no pretence for carrying

on the dispute, which was dropt in all appearance, though the mechanic Itill retained his refentment; and after breakfast, when the company broke up, accosted his adversary in the street, defiring to know how he durft be fo infelent as to make that scurrilous reflection upon his family. The fly-fancier, thus questioned, accused the mathematician of having been the aggreffor, in likening his head to a light cabbage; and here the alteration being renewed, the engineer proceeded to the illustration of his mechanics, tilting up his hand like a balance, thrusting it forward by way of lever, embracing the naturalist's nofe, like a wedge betwixt two of his fingers, and turning it round with the momentum of a screw or peritrochium. Had they been obliged to decide the dispute with equal arms, the affailant would have had great advantage over the other, who was very much his inferior in muscular strength; but the philosopher being luckily provided with a cane, no sooner disengaged himself from this opprobrious application, than he handled his weapon with great dexterity about the head and the shoulders of his antagonist, who finding this shower of blows very disagreeable, was fain to betake himself to his heels for shelter, and was pursued by the angry victor, who chased him from one end of the street to the other, affording unspeakable satisfaction to the multitude, as well as to our hero and to his introductor, who were spectators of the whole fcene.

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Thus was our adventurer initiated in the fociety of Yelpers, though he did not as yet fully understand the nature of his office, which was explained by the young physician, who chid him for his blunt behaviour in the case of the medal. and gave him to understand, that their patron's favour was neither to be gained nor preferved by any man that would pretend to convict him of a mistake : he therefore counselled him to respect this foible, and cultivate the old gentleman with all the zeal and veneration which a regard to his own character would permit him to pay. This talk was the easier to one of our young gentleman's pliant disposition, because the virtuoso's behaviour was absolutely free from that insolent felfconceit, which he could not bear without difgust : the fenior was, on the contrary, mild and beneficent; and Pickle was rather pleafed than shocked at his weakness, because it flattered his vanity with the supposition of his own superior sense.

Cautioned in this manner, Peregrine profited fo much by his infinuating qualifications, that in a very little time, he was looked upon as one of the chief favourites of the patron, to whom he dedicated a small occasional poem; and every body believed he would reap the fruits of his attachment, among the first of the old gentleman's

dependants.

#### C H A P. XCV.

Peregrine finding himself negletted by Sir Steady Steerwell, expostulates with him in a letter; in consequence of which he is forbid his house, loses his pension, and incurs the charge of lunacy.

THIS prospect of success, together with his expectations from the minister, whom he did not neglect, helped to comfort him under the reverse of fortune which he had undergone, and the uncertainty of the law-suit which he had still maintained for the recovery of his ten thousand pounds. The lawyers, indeed, continued to drain his pocket of money, while they filled his brain with an unfubstantial hope; and he was actually obliged to borrow money from his bookfeller, on the firength of the translation, in order to fatisfy the demands of those ravenous harpies, rather than lay the misanthrope under any difficulties, or have recourse to his friend Hatchway, who lived at the garrison, entirely ignorant of his distress. This was not at all alleviated by the arrival of the Indiaman, in which he had ventured feven hundred pounds, as we have already observed; for he was given to understand, that the borrower was left dangerously ill at Bombay when the ship failed, and that his chance for retrieving his money was extremely flender.

So situated, it is not to be supposed that he led a life of tranquillity, though he made a shift to struggle with the remonstrances of misfortune: yet fuch a gush of affliction would sometimes rush upon his thought, as overwhelmed all the ideas of his hope, and funk him to the very bottom of despondence. Every equipage that passed him in the street, every person of rank and fortune that occurred to his view, recalled the gay images of his former life, with fuch mortifying reflection as stabbed him to the very foul. He lived, therefore, inceffantly exposed to all the pangs of envy and difquiet. When I fay envy, I do not mean that fordid passion, in consequence of which a man repines at his neighbour's success, howsoever deferved; but that felf-tormenting indignation which is inspired by the prosperity of folly, ignorance, and vice. Without the intervening gleams of enjoyment, which he felt in the conversation of a few friends, he could not have supported his existence; or, at least, he must have suffered some violent discomposure of the brain : but one is still finding some circumstance of alleviation, even in the worst of conjectures; and Pickle was so ingenious in these researches, that he maintained a good battle with disappointment, till the revolution of the term at which he had received his penfion of three hundred pounds.

However, seeing the day elapse, without touching his allowance, notwithstanding his significant method of presenting himself at the minister's le-

vee, when the year was expired he wrote a letter to Sir Steady, reminding him of his fituation and promife, and giving him to understand, that his occasions were such, as compelled him to demand his salary for the ensuing year.

In the morning after this letter was conveyed. the author went to his honour's house, in expectation of being admitted by particular orders. but was mistaken in his hope, the minister not being visible. He then made his appearance at the levee, in hopes of being closeted; but though he took all opportunities of watching Sir Steady's eyes, he could not obtain one glance, and had the pleasure of seeing him retire, without being favoured with the least notice. These circumstances of wilful neglect were not over and above agreeable to our young hero, who, in the agonies of vexation and refentment, went home, and composed a most acrimonious remonstrance to his honour; in confequence of which he was not only deprived of all pretentions to a private audience, but expressly denied admittance on a public day, by Sir Steady's own order.

This prohibition, which announced his total ruin, filled him with rage, horror, and despair: he insulted the porter who signified the minister's command, threatening to chastise him upon the spot for his presumption, and vented the most virulent imprecations upon his master, to the astonishment of those who chanced to enter during this conference. Having exhausted himself in

N 3

these vain exclamations, he returned to his lodgings in a most frantic condition, biting his lips so that the blood ran from his mouth, dashing his head and fists against the sides of his chimney, and weeping with the most bitter expressions of wo.

Pipes, whose perception had been just sufficient to let him fee that there was some difference between the present and former situation of his master, over-hearing his transports, eslayed to enter his apartment with a view of administring confolation; and finding the door locked on the infide, defired admittance, protesting that otherwife he would down with the bulk-head, in the turning of an hand-spike. Peregrine ordered him to retire, on pain of his displeasure, and fwore, that if he should offer to break open the door, he would instantly shoot him through the Tom, without paying the least regard to this injunction, fet himfelf at work immediately. His master, exasperated at his want of reverence and respect, which in his present paroxysm appeared with the most provoking aggravation, flew into his closet, and fnatching up one of his pistols already loaded, no fooner faw his valet enter the apartment, in consequence of having forced the lock, than he presented full at his face, and drew the trigger. Happily the priming flashed in the pan, without communicating with the charge; fo that his furious purpose did not take effect upon the countenance of honest Pipes, who, difregardful of the attempt, though he knew the contents of the piece, asked, without the least alteration of feature, if it must be foul weather through the whole voyage?

Peregrine, mad as he was, repented of his mischievous intent against such a faithful adherent, in the very moment of execution; and had it proved fatal, according to the defign, in all probability he would have applied another to his own head. There are certain confiderations that Arike upon the mind with irrefishble torce, even in the midft of its distraction; the momentary recollection of some particular scene, occasioned by the features of the devoted victim, hath often struck the dagger from the affaffin's hand. By fuch an impulse was Pipes protected from any repeated effort of his mafter's rage; the friendly cause of his present disobedience flashed upon the conviction of Peregrine, when he beheld the rugged front of his valet, in which also stood disclosed his long and faithful service, together with the recommendation of the deceased commodore.

Though his wrath was immediately suppressed, and his heart torn with remorse for what he had done, his brows remained still contracted; and darting a most ferocious regard at the intruder, "Villain! (said he) how dare you treat me with such disrespect?" "Why shouldn't I lend a hand for the preservation of the ship, (answered the unrussed Pipes) when there is more sail than ballast aboard, and the pilot quits the helm in de-

spair? What signifies one or two broken voyages, so long as our timbers are strong, and our vesseling good trim? if she loses upon one tack, mayhap she may gain upon t'other; and I'll be damn'd if one day or other we don't fetch up our leeway: as for the matter of provision, you have started a pretty good stock of money into my hold, and you are welcome to hoist it up again when you wool."

Here Tom was interrupted by the arrival of Mr Crabtree, who seeing Peregrine with a pistol in his hand, and such wild disorder in his looks, his head, hands, and mouth besmeared with blood, and moreover, smelling the gun-powder which had been burnt, actually believed he had either committed or was bent upon murder, and accordingly retreated down stairs with infinite dispatch. All his speed could not convey him without the reach of Pipes, who overtaking him in his passage, carried him back into his master's apartment, observing by the way, that this was notime to sheer off, when his consort stood in need of his affistance.

There was something so ruefully severe in the countenance of Cadwallader, thus compelled, that at any other time our hero would have laughed at his concern; but at present, there was nothing risible in his disposition: he had, however, laid aside his pistol, and endeavoured, though in vain, to compose his internal disturbance; for he could not utter one syllable to the misanthrope, but

stood staring at him in silence, with a most delirious aspect. This did not tend to dispel the distancy of his friend, who, after some recollection, "I wonder (said he) that you have never killed your man before. Pray how may you have disposed of the body?" Pickle having recovered the faculty of speech, ordered his lacquey out of the room, and in a most incoherent detail, made Crabtree acquainted with the persidious conduct of the minister.

The confident was very glad to find his fears disappointed; for he had really concluded, that fome life was loft. Perceiving the youth too much agitated to be treated by him in his usual style, he owned that Sir Steady was a rascal, encouraged Pickle with the hope of being one day able to make reprifals upon him: in the mean time, offered money for his immediate occasions, exhorted him to exert his own qualifications in rendering himself independent of such miscreants, and finally counselled him to represent his wrongs to the nobleman whom he had formerly obliged, with a view of interesting that peer in his behalf, or at least of obtaining a satisfactory explanation from the minister, that he might take no premature measures of revenge.

These admonitions were so much milder and more agreeable than our hero expected from the misanthrope, that they had a very savourable effect upon his transports, which gradually subsided, until he became so tractable as to promise

that he would conform to his advice; in confequence of which, he next morning waited upon his lordflip, who received him, very politely, as usual, and with great patience heard his complaint, which, by the bye, he could not repeat without some hasty ebullitions of passionate refentment. This peer, after having gently disapproved of the letter of expostulation, which had produced such unfortunate effects, kindly undertook to recommend his case to the minister, and actually performed his promife that same day, when Sir Steady informed him, to his utter aftonishment, that the poor young gentleman was disordered in his brain, so that he could not posfibly be provided for in a place of importance, with any regard to the service; and it could not be expected that he (Sir Steady) would support his extravagance from his own private purfe: that he had indeed, at the folicitation of a nobleman deceased, made him a present of three hundred pounds, in confideration of some loss that he pretended to have sustained in an election; but; fince that time, had perceived in him fuch indifputable marks of lunacy, both by his difracted letters and perfonal behaviour, as obliged him to give order, that he should not be admitted into the house. To corroborate this affertion, the minister actually called in the evidence of his own porter, and one of the gentlemen of his household, who had heard the execrations that escaped our youth, when he first found himself excluded. In short, the nobleman was convinced that Peregrine was certainly and bona side mad as a March hare; and, by the help of this intimation, began to recollect some symptoms of distraction which appeared in his last visit; he remembered a certain incoherence in his speech, a violence of gesture and wildness of look, that now evidently denoted a disturbed understanding; and he determined, for his own credit and security, to disentangle himself from such a dangerous acquaintance.

With this view, he, in imitation of Sir Steady, commanded his gate to be shut against our adventurer; so that when he went to know the result of his lordship's conference with the minister, the door was flung in his face, and the janitor told him through an iron grate, that he needed not to give himself the trouble of calling again, for his lord defired to be excused from seeing him. He spoke not a word in answer to this declaration, which he immediately imputed to the ill-offices of the minister, against whom he breathed defiance and revenge, in his way to the lodgings of Cadwallader; who being made acquainted with the manner of his reception, begged he would desist from all schemes of vengeance, until he (Crabtree) should be able to unriddle the mystery of the whole, which he did not doubt of unveiling by means of his acquaintance with a family in which his lordship often spent the evening at whist.

It was not long before he had the defired opportunity; the nobleman being under no injunctions or obligation to keep the affair fecret, difcovered the young gentleman's misfortune, by
way of news, to the first company in which he
happened to be; and Peregrine's name was not
so obscure in the fashionable world, but that his
disorder became the general topic of conversation for a day; so that his friend soon partock
of the intelligence, and sound means to learn the
particulars of the minister's information, as above related. Nay, he was in danger of becoming a proselyte to Sir Steady's opinion, when he
recalled and compared every circumstance which
he knew of Pickle's impatience and impetuosity.

Indeed nothing more eafily gains credit than an imputation of madness fixed upon any person whatfoever; for when the fuspicion of the world is roused, and its observation once set at work, the wifest, the coolest man upon earth, will, by fome particulars in his behaviour, convict himfelf of the charge; every fingularity in his dress and manner (and fuch are observable in every person) that before passed unheeded, now rises up in judgment against him, with all the exaggeration of the observer's fancy; and the sagacious examiner perceives distraction in every glance of the eye, turn of the finger, and motion of the head: when he speaks there is a strange peculiarity in his argument and expression; when he holds his tongue, his imagination teems with

# PEREGRINE PICKLE.

some extravagant reverie; his sobriety of den.:1nor is no other than a lucid interval, and his paf-fion mere delirium.

If people of the most fedate and insipid life and conversation are subject to such criticisms; no wonder that they should take place upon a youth of Peregrine's fiery disposition, which, on some occasions, would have actually justified any remarks of this kind, which his greatest enemies could make. He was accordingly reprefented as one of those enterprising bucks, who, after having spent their fortunes in riot and excels, are happily bereft of their understanding, and confequently infensible of the want and difgrace which

they have entailed upon themselves.

Cadwallader himself was so much affected with the report, that for some time he hesitated in his deliberations upon our hero, before he could prevail upon himself to communicate to him the information he had received, or to treat him in other respects as a man of sound intellects. At length, however, he ventured to make Pickle acquainted with the particulars he had learned, imparting them with fuch caution and circumlocution, as he thought necessary to prevent the young gentleman from transgressing all bounds of temper and moderation : but, for once, he was agreeably deceived in his prognostic. Incenfed as our hero was at the conduct of the minister, he could not help laughing at the ridiculous afper sion which he told his friend he would soon VOL. IV.

re ute in a manner that should not be very agreeable to his calumniator; observing that it was a common practice with the state pilot, thus to flander those people to whom he lay under obligations, which he had no mind to discharge. "True it is (faid Peregrine) he has succeeded more than once in contrivances of this kind, having actually reduced divers people of weak heads to fuch extremity of despair, as hath issued in downright distraction, whereby he was rid of their importunities, and his judgment confirmed at the fame time : but I have now (thank heaven) attained to fuch a pitch of philosophical resolution, as will support me against all his machinations; and I will forthwith exhibit the monster to the public, in his true lineaments of craft, perfidy, and ingratitude."

This indeed was the plan with which Mr Pickle had amused himself during the researches of Crabtree; and by this time it so effectually flattered his imagination, that he believed he should be able to bring his adversary (in spite of all his power) to his own terms of submission, by distinguishing himself in the list of those who, at that period, wrote against the administration. Nor was this scheme so extravagant as it may seem to be, had not he overlooked one material circumstance, which Cadwallader himself did not recollect when he approved of this project.

While he thus meditated vengeance, the fame of his diforder, in due course of circulation, reach-

ed the ears of that lady of quality, whose memoirs have appeared in the third volume of these adven-The correspondence with which she had honoured our hero had been long broke off, for the reason already advanced, namely, his dread of being exposed to her infatuating charms. He had been candid enough to make her acquainted with this cause of exiling himself from her prefence; and she admitted the prudence of felf-restraint, although she would have been very well fatisfied with the continuance of his intimacy and conversation, which were not at all beneath the defire of any lady in the kingdom. Not withstanding this interruption, the still retained a friendthip and regard for his character, and felt all the affliction of a humane heart, at the news of his misfortunes and deplorable distemper. She had feen him courted and cultivated in the fun-shine of his prosperity; but she knew from fad experience, how all those insect-followers shrink away in the winter of distress. Her compassion reprefented him as a poor unhappy lunatic, destitute of all the necessaries of life, dragging about the ruins of human nature, and exhibiting the spectacle of blasted youth, to the scorn and abhorrence of his fellow-creatures. Aking with these charitable considerations, she found means to learn in what part of the town he lodged; and laying afide all superfluous ceremony, went in a hackney-chair to his door, which was opened by the ever faithful Pipes.

Her ladyship immediately recollected the features of this trufty follower, whom the could not help loving in her heart, for his attachment and fidelity, which after she had applauded with a most gracious commendation, she kindly inquired after the state of his master's health, and asked,

if he was in a condition to be feen?

Tom, who could not suppose that the visit of a fine lady would be unacceptable to a youth of Peregrine's complexion, made no verbal reply to the question; but beckoning her ladyship with an arch fignificance of feature, at which she could not forbear finiling, walked foftly up flairs; and the, in obedience to the fignal, followed her guide into the apartment of our hero, whom she found at a writing table, in the very act of composing an eulogium upon his good friend Sir Steady. The nature of his work had animated his countenance with an uncommon degree of vivacity; and being dreffed in a neat difhabille, his figure could not have appeared to more advantage, inthe eye of a person who despised the tinsel of unnecessary ornament. She was extremely well pleafed to fee her expectations fo agreeably difappointed; for, inflead of the fqualid circumflances and wretched looks attending indigence and distraction, every thing was decent and genteel; and the patient's aspect such, as betokened internal fatisfaction. Hearing the ruflling of fisk in his room, he lifted up his eyes from the paper, and feeing her ladyship, was firuck with astonishment and awe, as at the unexpected apparition

of some supernatural being.

Before he could recollect himself from his confusion, which called the blood into his cheeks, she told him, that, on the strength of old acquaintance, she was come to visit him, though it was a long time since he had given her good reason to believe, he had absolutely forgot there was such a person as she in being. After having made the most warm acknowledgments for this unforeseen honour, he assured her ladyship, that the subject of her reproach was not his fault, but rather his very great missortune; and that, if it had been in his power to forget her so easily as she seemed to imagine, he should never have given her cause to tax him with want of duty and respect.

Still dubious of his fituation, she began to converse with him on different subjects; and he acquitted himself so well in every particular, that she no longer doubted his having been misrepresented by the malice of his enemies; and candidly told him the cause and intent of her coming. He was not descient in expressions of gratitude for this instance of her generosity and friendship, which even drew tears from his eyes. As to the imputation of madness, he explained it so much to her ladyship's satisfaction, that she evidently perceived he had been barbarously dealt with, and that the charge was no other than a most villainous aspersion.

Notwithstanding all his endeavours to conceal-

the true state of his finances, it was impossible for him to give this detail, without disclosing some of the dissiculties under which he laboured; and her ladyship's sagacity divining the rest, she not only made him a tender of assistance, but presenting a bank-note for a considerable sum, insisted upon his acceptance of it, as a trisling mark of her esteem, and a specimen of what she was inclined to do in his behalf. But this mark of her benevolence he would by no means receive; assuring her, that though his affairs were at present a little perplexed, he had never selt the least circumstance of distress, and begging that she would not subject him to the burden of such an unnecessary obligation.

Being obliged to put up with this refusal, she protested she would never forgive him, should she ever hear that he rejected her offer, when he should not apply to her friendship, if ever he should sind himself incommoded in point of fortune:

An over delicacy in this respect (said she) I shall look upon as a disapprobation of my own conduct; because, I myself have been obliged to have recourse to my friends, in such emergencies.

These generous remonstrances and marks of particular friendship, could not fail to make a deep impression upon the heart of our hero, which still smarted from the former impulse of her charms: he not only felt all those transports

which a man of honour and fensibility may be supposed to feel upon such an occasion, but the sentiments of a more tender passion awaking in his breast, he could not help expressing himself in terms adapted to the emotions of his soul: and at length plainly told her, that were he disposed to be a beggar, he would ask something of insinitely more importance to his peace, than the

charitable affistance she had proffered.

Her lady ship had too much penetration to mistake his meaning; but as she did not chuse toencourage his advances, pretended to interpret his intimation in to a general compliment of gallantry, and in a jocose manner, desired he would not give her any reason to believe his lucid interval was past. " In faith, my lady, (faid he) I perceive the fit coming on; and I don't fee why I may not use the privilege of my distemper, so far as to declare myfelf one of your most passionate admirers." " If you do, (replied her ladyship). I shall not be fool enough to believe a madman, unless I were affured that your disorder proceeded from your love: and that this was the case, I suppose you would find it difficult to prove." " Nay, Madam, (cried the youth) I have in this drawer what will convince you of my having been mad on that strain; and fince you doubt my pretensions, you must give me leave to produce my tellimonials." So faying, he opened a fcrutore, and taking out a paper, presented her with the following fong, which he had written in her

praise, immediately after he was made acquainted with the particulars of her story.

T

While with fond rapture and amaze,
On thy transcendent charms I gaze,
My cautious soul essays in vain
Her peace and freedom to maintain:
Yet let that blooming form divine,
Where grace and harmony combine;
Those eyes, like genial orbs, that move,
Dispensing gladness, joy and love,
In all their pomp assail my view,
Intent my bosom to subdue;
My breast, by wary maxims steel'd,
Not all those charms shall force to yield.

#### II.

But when invok'd to Beauty's aid,
I fee th' enlighten'd foul display'd;
That foul so sensibly sedate
Amid the storms of froward fate!
Thy genius active strong and clear,
Thy wit sublime, tho' not severe,
The social ardour void of art,
That glows within thy candid heart;
My spirits, sense, and strength decay,
My resolution dies away,
And ev'ry faculty opprest,
Almighty love invades my breast!

Her ladyship having perused this production;

"Were I inclined to be suspicious, (said she) I should believe that I had no share in producing this composition, which seems to have been inspired by a much more amiable object. However, I will take your word for your intention, and thank you for the unmerited compliment, though I have met with it in fuch an accidental manner. Nevertheless, I must be so free as to tell you, it is now high time for you to contract that unbounded spirit of gallantry, which you have indulged fo long, into a fincere attachment for the fair Emilia, who, by all accounts, deserves the whole of your attention and regard." His nerves thrilled at the mention of that name, which he never heard pronounced without agitation. Rather than undergo the confequence of a conversation upon this subject, he chose to drop the theme of love altogether, and industriously introduced some other topic of discourse.

### C H A P. XCVI.

He writes against the minister, by whose instigation he is arrested, and moves himself by Habeas Corpus into the Fleet.

I Y lady having prolonged her slay beyond the period of a common visit, and repeated her protestations in the most frank and obliging manner, took her leave of cur adventurer, who promised to pay his respects to her in a sew

days, at her own house. Mean-while, he resumed his task; and having finished a most severe remonstrance against Sir Steady, not only with regard to his private ingratitude, but also to his male-administration of public affairs, he sent it to the author of a weekly paper, who had been long a professed resormer of politics; and it appeared in a very sew days, with a note of the publisher, desiring the savour of surther correspondences with the author.

The animadversions contained in this small esfay were fo spirited and judicious, and a great many new lights thrown upon the fubject: with fuch perspicuity, as attracted the notice of the public in an extraordinary manner, and helped to raife the character of the paper in which it was inferted. The minister was not the last who examined the performance, which, in spire of all his boasted temper, provoked him to fuch a degree that he fet his emissaries at work, and by dint of corruption procured a fight of the manuscript in Peregrine's own hand writing; which he immediately recognifed: but for further confirmation of his opinion, he compared it with the two letters which he had received from our adventurer. Had he known the young gentleman's talents for declamation were so acute, perhaps he would never have given him cause to complain, but employed him in the vindication of his own measures: nay, he might still have

had brought over from the opposition, had not the keenness of this first assault incensed him to a desire of revenge. He, therefore, no sooner made this discovery, than he conveyed his directions to his dependent, the receiver-general, who was possessed of Pickle's notes. Next day, while our author stood within a circle of his acquaintance, at a certain coffee-house, holding forth with great eloquence upon the diseases of the state, he was accosted by a bailiss, who entering the room with five or six followers, told him aloud, that he had a writ against him for twelve hundred pounds, at the suit of Mr Ravage Gleanum.

The whole company were aftonished at this address, which did not fail to discompose the defendant himself, who, (as it were instinctively) in the midst of his confusion, salured the officer across the head with his cane? in consequence of which application he was surrounded and disarmed in an instant by the gang, who carried him off to the next tavern in the most opprobrious manner. Nor did one of the spectators interpose in his behalf, or visit him in his consinement with the least tender of advice or assistance; such is the zeal of a coffee house friendship.

This stroke was the more severe upon our hero; as it was altogether unexpected: for he had utterly forgot the debt for which he was arrested. His present indignation was however, chief-

ly kindled against the bailiss who had done his offiee in such a disrespectful manner: and the first
use he made of his recollection in the house to
which they conducted him, was to chastise him
for the insolence and indecency of his behaviour.
This task he performed with his bare fists, every
other weapon being previously conveyed out of
his reach; and the delinquent underwent his discipline with surprising patience and resignation,
asking pardon with great humility, and protesting
before God, that he had never willingly and wittingly used any gentleman with ill-manners, but
had been commanded to arrest our adventurer according to the express direction of the creditor,
on pain of forfeiting his place.

By this declaration Peregrine was appealed, and out of a delirium of passion, waked to all the horrors of reflection. All the glory of his youth was now eclipfed, all the bloffoms of his hope were blasted, and he saw himself doomed to the miseries of a jail, without the least prospect of enlargement, except in the iffue of his law-fuit, of which he had, for some time past, grown less and less confident every day. What would become of the unfortunate, if the constitution of the mind did not permit them to bring one paffion into the field against another? passions that operate in the human breast, like poisons of a different nature extinguishing each other's effect. Our hero's grief reigned in full despotism, until it was deposed by revenge; during the predomihad happened as a circumstance conducive to its gratification: "If I must be prisoner for life, (said he to himself) if I must relinquish all my gay expectations, let me at least have the latisfaction of clanking my chains so as to interrupt the repose of my adversity; and let me search into my own breat for that peace and contentment, which I have not been able to said in all the scenes of my success. In being detached from the world, I shall be delivered from folly and ingratitude, as well as exempted from an expence, which I should have found a very difficult, if not impracticable, to support: I shall have little or no temptation to mispend my time, and more undisturbed apportunity to earn my sublifience, and prosecute my revence. After all, a jail is the best tube to which a cyuse posintender can retire."

In confequence of these comfortable restessions, he sent a letter to Mr Crabtree, with an account of his missortune, signifying his resolution to move himself immediately into the Fleet, and desiring that he would send him some understanding attorney of his acquaintance, who could dure the him into the steps necessary to be taken for that purpose. The Misanthrope, upon the receipt of this intimation, went in person to a lawyer whom he accompanied to the spunging house, whither the prisoner had by this time retired. Peregrine was, under the auspices of this director, conducted to the judge's chamber, where he was left in the

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cuffody of a tipstaff; and after having paid for a warrant of Habeas Corpus, by him conveyed to the Fleet, and delivered to the care of the warden.

Here he was introduced to the lodge, in which he was obliged to expose himself a full half hour to the eyes of all the turnkeys and door keepers. who took an accurate furvey of his person, that they might know him again at first fight : and then he was turned loofe into the place called the Master's side, having given a valuable consideration for that privilege. This is a large range of building, containing fome bundreds of lodgingrooms for the convenience of the priforers, who pay fo much per week for that accommodation. In fort, this community is like a city detached from all communication with the neighbouring parts, regulated by its own laws, and furnished with peculiar conveniences for the use of the inhabitants. There is a coffee house for the refort of gentlemen, in which all forts of liquors are kept, and a public kitchen where any quantity of meat is fold at a very reasonable rate, or any kind of prevision boiled and roasted gratis, for the poor prisoners; may, there are certain fervants of the public, who are obliged to go to market at the pleasure of individuals without fee or reward from those who employ them? nor are they cooped up to as to be excluded from the benefit of fresh air, there being an open area of a considerable extent, adjacent to the building, on

which they may exercise themselves in walking, skittles, bowls, and variety of other diversions, according to the inclination of each.

Our adventurer being admitted a denizen of this community, found himself bewildered in the midst of strangers, who, by their appearance, did not at all preposless him in their favour; and after having strolled about the place with his friend Cadwallader, repaired to the cossee house in order to be further informed of the peculiar customs which it was necessary for him to know.

There, while he endeavoured to pick up intelligence from the bar keeper, he was accosted by a person in canonicles, who very civilly asked, if he was a new comer. Being answered in the affirmative, he gave him the falutation of welcome to the fociety, and with great hospitality undertook to initiate him in the conflitutions of the brotherhood. This humane clergyman gave him to understand, that his first care ought to be that of fecuring a lodging; telling him, there was a certain number of apartments in the prison let at the same price, though some were more commodious than others; and that when the better fort became vacant by the removal of their posfeffors, those who succeeded in point of seniority had the privilege of occupying the empty tenements preferable to the rest of the inhabitants, howsoever respectable they might otherwise be: that when the jail was very much crowded, there was but one chamber allotted for two lodgers;

but this was not considered as any great hardship on the prisoners, because, in that ease, there
was always a sufficient number of males who willingly admitted the semales to a share of their apartments and beds; not but the time had been
when this expedient would not answer the occasion, because after, a couple had been quartered
in every room, there was a considerable residue
still unprovided with lodging; so that for the
time being, the last comers were obliged to take
up their habitation in Mount Scoundrel, an apartment most miserably surnished, in which they
lay promissuously amidst filth and vermin, until
they could be better accommodated in due course
of rotation.

Peregrine hearing the description of this place; began to very impatient about his night's ledging; and the person perceiving his anxiety, conducted him, without loss of time, to the warden, who, forthwith put him in possession of a paultry chamber, for which he agreed to pay half a crown a week. This point being settled, his director gave him an account of the different methods of eating, either singly, in a mess, or at an ordinary, and advised him to chuse the last as the most reputable, offering to introduce him next day to the best company in the Fleet, who always director gether in public.

Pickle having thanked this gentleman for his civilities, and promifed to be governed by his ad-

vice, invited him to pass the evening at his apartment; and in the mean time shut himself up with Crabtree, in order to deliberate upon the wreck of his affairs. Of all his ample fortune, nothing now remained but his wardrobe, which was not very fumptuous, about thirty guineas in cash. and the garrison, which the Milanthrope counselled him to convert into ready money for his prefent fublistence. This advice, however, he abso-Intely rejected, not only on account of his having already bestowed it upon Hatchway, during the term of his natural life, but also with a view of retaining fome memorial of the commodore's generolity. He proposed, therefore, to finish in this retreat the translation which he had undertaken, and earn his future foblistence by labour of the fame kind. He defired Cadwallader to take charge of his moveables, and fend to him fuch linen and cloaths as he should have occasion for in his confinement. But among all his difficulties nothing embaraffed him fo much as his faithful Pipes, whom he could no longer entertain in his fervice. He knew Tom had made shift to pick up a competency in the course of his ministration; but that reflection, though it in fome measure alleviated, could not wholly prevent the mortification he should suffer in parting with an affectionate adherent, who was by this time become as necessary to him as one of his own members. and who was fo accustomed to live under his command and protection, that he did not believe

the fellow could reconcile himself to any other way of life.

Crabtree, in order to make him easy on that score, offered to adopt him in the room of his own valet, whom he would dismiss; though he observed that Pipes had been quite spoiled in our hero's service. But Peregrine did not chuse to lay his friend under that inconvenience, knowing that his present lacquey understood and complied with all the peculiarities of his humour, which Pipes would never be able to study or regard, he therefore, determined to send him back to his shipmate liatchway, with whom he had spent the sore-part of his life.

These points being adjusted, the two friends adjourned to the coffee-house, with a view of inquiring into the character of the clergyman, to whose beneficence our adventurer was so much indebted. They learned he was a parson who had incurred the displeasure of the bishop in whose discesse he was settled, and being unequal in power to his antagonist, had been driven to the Fleet; in contequence of his obstinate opposition; though he still found means to enjoy a pretty considerable income, by certain irregular practices in the way of his function, which income was chiefly consumed in acts of humanity to his fellow-creatures in distress.

His eulogium was scarce finished when he entered the room according to appointment with Peregrine, who ordering wine and something for Supper to be carried to his apartment, the triumvirate went thither; and Cadwallader taking his leave for the night, the two fellow-prisoners pasfed the evening very fociably, our hero being entertained by his new companion, with the private hiftory of the place, some particulars of which were extremely enrious. He told him, that the person who attended them at supper, bowing with the most abject fervility, and worshipping them every time he opened his mouth; with the epithets of your Lordship and your Honour, had a few years before, been actually a captain in the guards; who, after having run his career in the great world, had threaded every flation in their community, from that of a buck of the first order. who fwaggers about the Fleet in a laced coat. with a footman and whore, to the degree of a tapster, in which he was now happily fettled. " If you will take the trouble of going into the cook's kitchen (faid he) you will perceive a beau metamorphofed into a turnspit: and there are some hewers of wood and drawers of water in this microcosm, who have had forests and fishponds of their own: yet notwithstanding fuch a miserable reverse of fortune, they are neither objects of regard or compassion, because their misfortunes are the fruits of the most vicious extravagance, and they are absolutely insensible of the mifery which is their lot. Those of our fellow-fufferers, who have been reduced by undeferved losses, or the precipitation of unexperienced

youth, never fail to meet with the most brotherly assistance, provided they believe with decorum,
and a due sense of their unhappy circumstances.
Nor are we destinate of power to chastise the sicentious, who resuse to comply with the regulations of the place, and disturb the peace of the
community with riot and disorder. Justice is
here impartially administered by a court of equity, consisting of a select number of the most respectable inhabitants, who punish all offenders
with equal judgment and resolution, after they
have been fairly convicted of the crimes laid to
their charge.

The clergyman having thus explained the œconomy of the place, as well as the cause of his own confinement, began to difcover figns of curiofity, touching our hero's lituation; and Pickle, thinking be could do no less for the fatisfaction of a man, who had treated him in fuch an hospitable manner, favoured him with a detail of the circumstances which produced his imprisonments at the fame time gratifying his refentment against the minister, which delighted in recapitulating the injuries he had received. The parson, who had been prepoffessed in favour of our youth at first fight, understanding what a confiderable part he had acted on the stage of life; felt his veneration increase; and, pleased with the opportunity of introducing a stranger of his confequence to the club, left him to his repose, or rather to ruminate on an event which he had not as yet feriously considered.

I might here, in imitation of some celebrated writers, furnish out a page or two with the reflections he made upon the instability of human affairs, the treachery of the world, and the temerity of youth; and endeavour to decoy the reader into a fmile, by fome quaint observations of my own, touching the fagacious moralizer: but, befides that I look upon this practice as an impertinent anticipation of the perufer's thoughts, I have too much matter of importance upon my. hands, to give the reader the least reason to believe that I am driven to fuch paultry shifts, in order to eke out the volume. Suffice it then, to fay, our adventurer passed a very uneasy night, not only from the thorny fuggestions of his mind. but likewise from the anguish of his body, which fuffered from the hardness of his couch, as well as from the natural inhabitants thereof, that did not tamely fuffer his intrufion.

In the morning he was waked by Pipes, who brought upon his shoulder a portmanteau silled with necessaries, according to the direction of Cadwallader; and tossing it down upon the floor, regaled himself with a quid, without the least manifestation of concern. After some pause, "You see Pipes (said his master) to what I have brought myself." "Ey, ey, (answered the valet) once the vessel is ashore, what signifies talking? We must bear a hand to tow her off, if we can a if she won't budge for all the anchors and capstans a-board, after we have lightened her, by cutting

away her maffs, and heaving our guns and cargo overboard, why then, mayhap, a brifk gale of wind, a ride, or current fetting from shore, may floar her again in the blast of a whilthe. Here is two hundred and ten guineas by the tale, in this here canvas bag! and upon this scrap of paperno, avait-that's my discharge from the parish for Moll Trundle-ey, here it is-an order for thirty pounds upon the what d'ye call em in the city; and two tickers for twenty-five and eighteen, which I lent, d'ye fee, to Sam Studding, to buy a cargo of rum, when he hoifted the fign of the commodore at St Cathrines." So faying, he fpread his whole flock upon the table, for the acceptance of Peregrine; who, being very much affected with this fresh instance of his attachment, expressed his fatisfaction at seeing he had been fuch a good occonomist, and paid his wages up to that very day. He thanked him for his faithful fervices, and observing that he himself was no longer in a condition to maintain a domestic, adviled him to retire to the garrison, where he would be kinelly received by his friend Hatchway, to whom he would recommend him in the ftrongest terms.

Pipes looked blank at this unexpected intimation, to which he replied, that he wanted neither pay nor provision, but only to be employed as a tender; and that he would not steer his course for the garrison, unless his master would first take his lumber aboard. Pickle, however, peremptorily refused to touch a farthing of the money, which he commanded him to put up; and Pipes was to mornified at his refufal, that twifting the notes together, he threw them into the fire without helitation, crying, " Damn the money!" the canvas bag, with its contents, would have shared the fame face, had not Pereguine flarted up, and fnatching the paper from the flames, ordered his valer to forbear, on pain of being banished for ever from his fight. He told him, that, for the prefent, there was a necessity for his being dismiffed, and he discharged him accordingly; but if he would go and live quietly with the lieutenant, he promifed, on the first favourable turn of his forcune, to take him again into his fervice. In the mean time, he gave him to understand, that he neither wanted, nor would make any use of his money; which he infifted upon his pocketing immediately on pain of forfeiting all title to his favour.

Pipes was very much chagrined at these injunctions, to which he made no reply; but sweeping the money into his bag, stalked off in silence, with a look of grief and mortification, which his countenance had never exhibited before. Nor was the proud heart of Pickle unmoved upon this occasion; he could scarce suppress his forrow in the presence of Pipes, and as soon as he was gone, it vented itself in tears.

Having no great pleasure in conversing with his own thoughts, he dressed himself with all con-

venient disposets, being attended by each of the occasional sychologicals in place, who have a formerly been a clab manage in the city of a boundary of a class of the color o

tomes secret, of many many and the tell being proved by inconvenible synderics, he received fear attely correct to the public nump, and fibrially to a forest edge of which is the cardle being attely correct to the public nump, and fibrially to a forest edge of color which. This cardle being attender, the properties to the mai of the other attender, the ways flentenant of a man of war, which do not a riot, which he had committed in company with a female not yet taken against the laws of the place, and the peace of his fellow-prisoners. The culprit had been very obstreperous, and absolutely refused to obey the summons, with many expressions of contempt and defiance against the authority of the court; upon which the constables were ordered to bring him

brought before the judge, after having made a most desperate resistance with a hanger, by which one of the officers was dangerously wounded. This outrage was such an aggravation of his crime, that the court would not venture to decide upon it, but remitted him to the sentence of the warden; who, by virtue of his distatorial power, ordered the rioter to be loaded with irons, and confined in the strong room, which is a dismal dungeon, situated upon the side of the ditch, insested with toads and vermin, surcharged with noisome damps, and impervious to the least ray

of light. Justice being done upon these criminals, our adventurer and his company adjourned to the ordinary, which was kept at the coffee-house; and he found, upon inquiry, that his mess-mates confifted of one officer, two underwriters, three projectors, an alchymist, an attorney, a parson, a brace of poets, a baronet, and a knight of the bath. The dinner, though not fumptuous, nor very elegantly ferved up, was nevertheless sub. stantial, and pretty well dressed: the wine was tolerable, and all the guests as chearful as if they had been utter strangers to calamity; so that our adventurer began to relish the company, and mix in the conversation, with the sprightliness and ease which were peculiar to his disposition. The repast being ended, the reckoning paid, and part of the gentlemen withdrawn to cards, or other

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Peregrine made one, agreed to spend the afternoon in conversation over a bowl of punch; and
the liquor being produced, they passed the time
very socially in various topics of discourse, including many curious anecdotes relating to their
own affairs. No man scrupled to own the nature
of the debt for which he was confined, unless it
happened to be some piddling affair; but, on the
contrary, boasted of the importance of the sum, as
a circumstance that implied his having been a person of consequence in life; and he who had made
the most remarkable escapes from bailiss, was
looked upon as a man of superior genius and address.

Among other extraordinary adventures of this kind, none was more romantic than the last elopement atchieved by the officer; who told them he had been arrested for a debt of two hundred pounds, at a time when he could not command as many pence, and conveyed to the bailiff's house, in which he continued a whole fortnight, moving his lodging higher and higher from time to time, in proportion to the decay of his credit; until. from the parlour, he had made a regular afcent to the garret. There while he rumineted on his next itep, which would have been to the Marshalfea, and faw the night come on, attended with hunger and cold, the wind began to blow, and the tiles of the house rattled with the florm: his imagination was immediately flruck with the idea of

escaping unperceived, amidst the darkness and noise of the tempest, by creeping out at the window of his apartment, and making his way over the tops of the adjoining houses. Glowing with this profpect, he examined the passage, which to his infinite mortification he found grated with iron-bars on the outfide; but even this difficulty did not divert himfrom his purpofe. Conscious of his own strength, he believed himfelf able to make an hole through the roof, which seemed to be sender and crazy; and on this supposition, he barricado'd the door with the whole furniture of the room; then, fetting himself to work with a poker, he in a few minutes effected a passage for his hand, with which he gradually fiript off the boards and tiling, fo as to open a fally-port for his whole body, through which he fairly fet himfelf free, groping his way towards the next tenement. Here, however, he met with an unlucky accident; his hat being blown off his head, chanced to fall into the court just as one of the bailiff's followers was knocking at the door; and this myrmidon recognizing it, immediately gave the alarm to his chief, who, running up stairs to the garret, forced open the door in a twinkling, notwithflanding the precautions which the prisoner had taken, and with his attendant. pursued the fugitive thro' his own track. "After this chace had continued sometime (faid the officer) to the imminent danger of all three, I found my progress suddenly stopped by a sky-light, through which I perceived feven taylors, fitting at work

upon a board. Without the least hesitation or previous notice, I plunged among them, with my backfide foremost. Before they could recollect themselves from the consternation occasioned by fuch a strange visit, I told them my fituation, and gave them to understand that there was no time to be loft. One of the number, taking the hint; led me instantly down stairs, and dismissed me at the street-door, while the bailiff and his follower, arriving at the breach, were deterred from entering by the brethren of my deliverer, who, prefenting their shears, like a range of chevaux de frise, commanded them to retire, on pain of immediate death: and the catchpole, rather than rifk his careafe, confented to discharge the debt, comforting himself with the hope of making me prisoner again. There, however, he was disappointed: I kept fnug, and laughedat his escape-warrant, until I was ordered abroad with the regiment, when I conveyed myfelf-in a hearfe to Gravefend, where I embarked for Flanders : but, being obliged to come over again on the recruiting fervice, I was nabbed on another score: and all the satisfaction my first captor has been able to obtain, is a writ of detainer; which I believe will fix me in this place, until the parliament, in its great goodness, thall think proper to discharge my debts, by a new act of infolvency."

Every body owned, that the captain's success was equal to the hardiness of his enterprise, which was altogether in the style of a soldier; but one of the merchants observed, that he must have been a bailiff of fmall experience, who would trust a prifoner of that consequence in such an unguarded place. " If the captain (faid he) had fallen into the hands of fuch a cunning rafcal as the fellow that arrested me, he would not have found it such an eafy matter to escape; for the manner in which I was caught, is perhaps the most extraordinary that ever was practifed in thefe realms. You must know, gentlemen, I fuffered fuch loffes by infuring veffels during the war, that I was obliged to ftop payment, though my expectations were fuch as encouraged me to manage one branch of bufiness, without coming to any immediate composition with my creditors. In fhort, I received confignments from abroad as usual; and that I might not be fubject to the visits of those catchpoles, I never stirred abroad, but turning my first floor into a warehouse, ordered all my goods to be hoisted up by a crane fixed to the upper story of my house. Divers were the firatagems practifed by those ingenious ferrets with a view of decoying me from the walls of my fortifications. I received innumerable messages from people, who wanted to see me at certain taverns upon particular business: I was fummoned into the country, to fee my own mother, who was faid to be at the point of death. A gentlewoman, one night, was taken in labour on my threshold: at another time, I was disturbed with the ery of murder in the ffreet; and once I was alarmed by a falfe fire. But being ftill upon

my guard. I baffled all their attempts, and thought myfelf quite fecure from their invention : when one of those blood hounds, inspired, I belive, by the devil himself, contrived a fnare by which I was at last entrapped. He made it his business to inquire into the particulars of my traffick; and understanding that, among other things, there were feveral chefts of Florence entered at the custom-house on my behalf, he ordered himself to be inclosed in a box of the same dimensions, with air-holes in the bottom, for the benefit of breathing, and No III, marked on the cover; and being conveyed to my door in a cart, among other goods, was, in his turn, hoisted up to my ware-house, where I flood with a hammer, in order to open the chefts, that I might compare the contents with the invoice. You may guels my furprise and con-Rernation, when, upon uncovering the box, I faw a bailiff rearing up his head, like Lazarus from the grave, and heard him declare that he had a writ against me for a thousand pounds. Indeed, I aimed the hammer at his head; but in the hurry of my confusion missed my mark : before I could repeat the blow, he started up with great agility, and executed his office in the fight of feveral evidences, whom he had affembled in the fireet for that purpofe; fo that I could not possibly difentangle myfelf from the toil, without incurring an escape-warrant, from which I had no protection. But, had I known the contents of the cheft, by all that's good! I would have ordered my porter to raife it up, as

high as the crane would permit, and then have cut

the rope by acoident."

"That expedient (faid the knight with the red ribbon) would have discouraged him from such hazardous attempts for the future, and would have been an example in terrorem of all his brethren. The story puts me in mind of a deliverance atchieved by Tom Hackabout, a very fout honest fellow, an old acquaincance of mine, who had been fo famous for maining bailiffs, that another gentleman having been illused at a spunging-house, no sconer obtained his liberty, than, with a view of being revenged upon the landlord, he, for five shillings, bought one of Tom's notes, which fold at a very large discount, and taking out a writ upon it, put it into the hands of the bailiff who had used him ill. The catchpole, after a diligent fearch, had an opportunity of executing the writ upon the defendant, who, without ceremony, broke one of his arms, fractured his skull, and belaboured him in fuchra manner, that he lay without fense or motion on the spot. By such exploits, this hero became so formidable, that no fingle bailiff would undertake to arrest him; fo that he appeared in all publick places untouched. At length, however, feveral officers of the Marshalfea-court entered into a confederacy against him; and two of the number, attended by three desperate followers, ventured to arrest him one day in the Strand near Hungerford market: he found it impossible to make refistance, because the whole gang sprung

upon him at once, like so many tygers, and pinioned his arms so fast that he could not wag a
singer. Perceiving himself fairly overpowered,
he desired to be conducted forthwith to jail, and
was stowed in a boat accordingly: by the time
they had reached the middle of the river, he sound
means to overset the wherry by accident, and
every man disregarding the prisoner, consulted his
own safety. As for Hackabout, to whom that
element was quite familiar, he mounted astride
upon the keel of the boat, which was uppermost,
and exhorted the bailiss to swim for their lives:
protesting, before God, that they had no other
chance to be saved.

The watermen were immediately taken up by fome of their own friends, who, far from yielding any affiftance to the eatch-poles, kept aloof, and exulted in their calamity. In short, two of the five went to the bottom, and never faw the light of God's fun, and the other three with great dif-Sculty faved themselves by laying hold on the rudder of a dung-barge, to which they were carried by the fiream, while Tom with great deliberation fwam across to the Surry shore. After this atchievement he was fo much dreaded by the fraternity that they shivered at the very mention of his name; and this character, which some people would think an advantage to a man in debt, was the greatest misfortune that could possibly happen to him; because no tradesman would give him credit for the leaft trifle, on the supposition that

he could not indemnify himself in the common course of law."

The parson did not approve of Mr Hackabout's method of escaping, which he considered as a very unchristian attempt upon the lives of his fellowfubjects: "It is enough (faid he) that we elude the laws of our country, without murdering the officers of justice: for my own part, I can lay my hand upon my heart, and fafely fay, that I forgive from my foul the fellow by whom I was made a prisoner, although the circumstances of his behaviour were treacherous, wicked and profane. Your must know, Mr Pickle, I was one day called into my chapel, in order to join a couple in the holy. bands of matrimony: and my affairs being at that time fo fituated, as to lay me under apprehensions of an arreft, I cautiously furveyed the man thro a lettice which was made for that purpose, before I would venture to come within his reach. He was cloathed in a feaman's jacket and trouffers, and hadfuch an air of fimplicity in his countenance. as divested me of all suspicion: I therefore, without further fcruple, trufted myfelf in his presence. began to exercise the duty of my function, and had actually performed one half of the ceremony when the supposed woman, pulling out a paper from her bosom, exclaimed with a masculine voice. "Sir, you are my prisoner, I have got a writ: against you for five hundred pounds." I was thunderstruck at this declaration, not so much our account of my own misfortune, which (thank hea-

ven) I can bear with patience and refignation, as at the impiety of the wretch, first, in disguising such a worldly aim under the cloak of religion; and secondly, in prostituting the service when there was no occasion for so doing, his design having previously taken effect. Yet I forgive him, poor soul! because he knew not what he did; and I hope you, Sir Sipple, will exert the same Christian virtue towards the man by whom you was likewise over-reached."

Oh! damn the rafeal (cried the knight) were I his judge, he should be condemned to flames everlasting. A villain! to difgrace me in fuch a manner, before almost all the fashionable company in town." Our hero expressing a curiofity to know the particulars of this adventure, the knight gratified his defire, by telling him, that one evening while he was engaged in a party of cards, at a drum in the house of a certain lady of quality, he was given to understand by one of the servants, that a stranger, very richly dreffed, was just arrived in a chair preceded by five footmen with flambeaus, and that he refused to come up flairs, until he should be introduced by Sir Sipple. "Upon this notice (continued the knight) I judged it was fome of my quality-friends; and having obtainedher lady ship's permiffion to bring him up, went down to the hall, and perceived a person, whom, to the best of my recollection, I had never feen before. However. his appearance was fo magnificent that I could not harbour the least suspicion of his true quality,

and feeing me advance, he faluted me with a very genteel bow, observing, that though he had not the honour of my acquaintance, he could not dispense with waiting upon me, even on that occafion, in consequence of a letter which he had received from a particular friend. So faying, he put a paper into my hand, intimating that he had got a writ against me for ten thousand pounds. and that it would be my interest to submit without resistance, for he was provided with a guard of twenty men, who furrounded the door in different difguifes, determined to fecure me against all opposition. Enraged at the scoundrel's finesse, and trusting to the assistance of the real footmen asfembled in the hall, So you are a rascally bailiff (faid I) who have assumed the garb of a gentleman in order to disturb her ladyship's company. Take this fellow, my lads, and roll himin the kennel: here are ten guineas for your trouble. words were no fooner pronounced than I was feized, lifted up, and placed in a chair, and carried off in the twinkling of an eye: not but that the fervants of the house and some other footmen made a motion towards my rescue, and alarmed all the company above: but the bailiff affirming with undaunted effrontery, that I was taken up upon an affair of state, and so many people appearing in his behalf, the countess would not suffer the supposed messenger to be insulted; and he carried me to the county-jail, without further lett or molestation."

#### C H A P. XCVII.

Pickle seems tolerably well reconciled to his cage: and is, by the clergyman, entertained with the memoirs of a noted personage, whom he sees hy accident in the Fleet.

HE knight had scarce finished this narrative. when our hero was told, that a gentleman in the coffee-room wanted to fee him; and when he went thither he found his friend Crabtree, who had transacted all his affairs according to the determination of the preceding day; and now gave him an account of the remarks he had over heard on the subject of his misfortune: for the manner of the arrest was so-public and extraordinary, that those who were present immediately propagated it among their acquaintance, and it was that fame evening discoursed upon at several tea and cardtables, with this variation from the truth, that the debt amounted to twelve thousand instead of twelve hundred pounds; from which circumstance it was conjectured that Peregrine was a bite from the beginning, who had found credit on account of his effrontery and appearance, and imposed himself upon the town as a young gentleman of fortune. They rejoiced, therefore, at his calamity, which they considered as a just punishment for his fraud and presumption, and began to review certain particulars of his conduct, that plainly demonstrated him to be a rank adventurer, long

Pickle, who now believed his glory was fet for ever, received this intelligence with that difdain which enables a man to detach himself effectually from the world, and, with great tranquillity, gave the Misanthrope an entertaining detail of what he had seen and heard since their last parting. While they amused themselves in this manner over a dish of coffee, they were joined by the parson, who congratulated our hero upon his bearing mischance with such philosophic quiet, and began to regale the two friends with some curious circumstances relating to the private history of the several prisoners, as they happened to come in.

At length a gentleman entered, at fight of whom the clergyman rose up, and saluted him with a most reverential bow, which was graciously returned by the stranger, who, with a young man that attended him, retired to the other end of the room. They were no fooner out of hearing than the communicative priest defired his company to take particular notice of this person to whom he had paid his respects: "That man (faid he) is this day one of the most flagrant instances of neglected virtue which the world can produce. Over and above a cool, difcerning head, fraught with uncommon learning and experience, he is possessed of such fortitude and resolution, as no difficulties can discourage, and no danger impair: and fo indefatigable in

his humanity, that even now, while he is furrounded with fuch embarrassments as would distract the brain of an ordinary mortal, he has added considerably to his incumbrances, by taking under his protection that young gentleman, who, indiced by his character, appealed to his benevolence for redress of the grievances under which he labours from the villainy of his guardian."

Peregrine's curiofity being excited by this encomium, he asked the name of this generous patron, of which, when he was informed, "I am no stranger (faid he) to the fame of that gentleman, who has made a confiderable noise in the world, on account of that great cause he undertook in defence of an unhappy orphan; and fince he is a person of such an amiable disposition, I am heartily forry to find that his endeavours have not met with that successful issue which their good fortune, in the beginning, seemed to promife. Indeed the circumstance of his espousing that cause was so uncommon and romantic, and the depravity of the human heart fo universal, that fome people, unaquainted with his real character, imagined his views were altogether felfish; and some were not wanting who affirmed he was a mere adventurer. Nevertheless, I must do him the justice to own, I have heard some of the most virulent of those who were concerned on the other fide of the question, bear testimony in his favour, observing, that he was deceived into the which at first engaged his compassion. Your description of his character confirms me in the same opinion: though I am quite ignorant of the affair; the particulars of which I should be glad to learn, as well as a genuine account of his own life, many circumstances of which are by his enemies, I believe, egregiously misrepresented."

"Sir (answered the priest) that is a piece of fatisfaction which I am glad to find myself capable of giving you: I have had the pleasure of being acquainted with Mr M—from his youth, and every thing which I shall relate concerning him, you may depend upon as a fact which hath fallen under my own cognizance, or been vouched upon the credit of undoubted evidence.

Mr M——'s father was a minister of the e-stablished church of Scotland, descended from a very ancient clan, and his mother nearly related to a noble family in the northern part of that kingdom. While the son was boarded at a public school, where hemade good progress in the Latintongue, his father died, and he was left an orphan to the care of an uncle, who, finding him determined against any servile employment, kept him at school, that he might prepare himself for the university, with a view of being qualified for his father's profession.

Here his imagination was fo heated by the warlike atchievements he found recorded in the Latin authors, fuch as Cæsar, Curtius and Buc-

hanan, that he was feized with an irresistible thirst of military glory, and a defire of trying his fortune in the army. His majesty's troops taking the field, in consequence of the rebellion which happened in the year seventeen hundred and fifteen, this young adventurer, thinking no life equal to that of a foldier, found means to furnish himself with a fusil and bayonet, and leaving the school, repaired to the camp near Stirling, with a view of fignalizing himself in the field, tho' he was at that time but just turned of thirteen. He offered his service to several officers. in hope of being inlifted in their companies; but they would not receive him, because they rightly concluded that he was some school boy broke loofe, without the knewledge or confent of his relations. Notwithstanding this discouragement, he continued in camp, curiously prying into every part of the fervice; and fuch was the refolution conspicuous in him, even at such a tender age, that after his small finances were exhausted, he perfifted in his defign ; and because he would not make his wants known, actually subsisted for feveral days on hips, haws, and floes, and other spontaneous fruits which he gathered in the woods and fields. Mean-while, he never failed to be present when any regiment or corps of men, were drawn out to be exercifed and reviewed, and accompanied them in all their evolutions, which he had learned to great perfection, by observing the companies which were quartered in the place

where he was at school. This eagerness and perseverance attracted the notice of many officers, who, after having commended his spirit and zeal, pressed him to return to his parents, and even threatened to expel him from the camp, if he

would not comply with their advice.

These remonstrances having no other effect than that of warning him to avoid his monitors, they thought proper to alter their behaviour towards him, took him into their protection, and even into their mess; and what, above all other marks of favour, pleafed the young foldier most, permitted him to incorporate in the battalion, and take his turn of duty with the other men. In this happy situation he was discovered by a relation of his mother, who was a captain in the army, and who used all his authority and influence in perfuading M- to return to school; but finding him deaf to his admonitions and threats. he took him under his own care, and when the army marched to Dumblane, left him at Stirling, with express injunction to keep himself within the walls.

He temporized with his kinfman, fearing that should he seem refractory, the captain would have ordered him to be shut up in the castle. Inslamed with the desire of seeing a battle, his relation no sooner marched off the ground, than he mixed in with another regiment, to which his former patrons belonged, and proceeded to the field, where he distinguished himself, even at that early time

of life, by his gallantry, in helping to retrieve a pair of colours belonging to M—n's regiment; so that after the affair, he was presented to the Duke of Argyle, and recommended strongly to Brigadier Grant, who invited him into his regiment, and promised to provide for him with the first opportunity: But that gentleman in a little time lost his command upon the Duke's disgrace; and the regiment was ordered for Ireland, being given to Colonel Nassau, whose favour the young volunteer acquired to such a degree, that he was recommended to the King for an Ensigncy, which in all probability he would have obtained, had not the regiment been unluckily reduced.

In consequence of this reduction, which happened in the most severe season of the year, he was obliged to return to his own country, through infinite hardhips, to which he was exposed from the narrowness of his circumstances: and continuing still enamoured of a military life, he entered into the regiment of Scotch Grays, at that time commanded by the late Sir James Campbell, who being acquainted with his family and character, encouraged him with the promife of fpeedy preferment. In this corps he remained three years, during which he had no opportunity of feeing actual fervice, except at the affair of Glensheel; and this life of insipid quiet must have hung heavy upon a youth of M- 's active difposition, had not he found exercise for the mind in reading books of amusement, history, voyages.

and geography, together with those that treated of the art of war ancient and modern, for which he contracted fuch an eager appetite, that he used to fpend fixteen hours a day in this employments About that time he became acquainted with a gentleman of learning and tafte, who observing his indefatigable application, and infatiable thirk after knowledge, took upon himself the charge of superintending his studies; and by the direction of fuch an able guide, the young foldier converted his intention to a more folid and profitable course of reading. So inordinate was his defire of making speedy advances in the paths of learning, that within the compals of three months, he diligently perused the writings of Locke, and Malbranche, and made himself master of the first fix, and of the eleventh and twelfth books of Euclid's Elements. He considered Puffendorf and Grotius with uncommon care, acquired a tolerable degree of knowledge in the French language, and his imagination was fo captivated with the defire of learning, that feeing no prospect of a war, or views of being provided for in the fervice, he quitted the army and went through a regular course of university-education. made fuch progress in his studies, he resolved to qualify himself for the church, and acquired such a flock of school-divinity under the instructions of a learned professor at Edinburgh, that he more than once mounted the rostrum in the public hall, and held forth with uncommon applause: but

being discouraged from a prosecution of his plan, by the unreasonable austerity of some of the Scotch clergy, by whom the most indifferent and innocent words and actions were often misconstrued into levity and misconduct, he resolved to embrace the first savourable opportunity of going abroad, being instanced with the desire of seeing foreign countries, and actually set out for Holland, where, for the space of two years, he studied the Roman law, with the law of nature, and nations, under the samous professors Telieu and Barbeyrac.

Having thus finished his school-education, he set out for Paris, with a view to make himself persect in the French language, and learn such useful exercises, as might be acquired with the wretched remnant of his stender estate, which was by that time reduced very low. In his journey through the Netherlands, he went to Namure, and paid his respects to Bishop Strickland and General Collier, by whom he was received with great civility, in consequence of letters of recommendation, with which he was provided from the Hague, and the old general assured him of his protection and interest for a pair of colours, if he was disposed to enter into the Dutch service:

Though he was by that time pretty well cured of his military Quixotifm, he would not totally decline the generous proffer, for which he thanked him in the most grateful terms, telling the

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general that he would pay his duty to him on his return from France, and then, if he could determine upon re-engaging in the army, should think himself highly honoured in being under his command.

After a stay of two months in Flanders, he proceeded to Paris, and far from taking up his habitation in the suburbs of St Germain, according to the custom of English travellers, he hired a private lodging on the other side of the river, and associated chiefly with French officers, who (their youthful fallies being over) are allowed to be the politest gentlemen of that kingdom. In this scheme he found his account so much, that he could not but wonder at the folly of his countrymen, who lose the main scope of their going abroad, by spending their time and fortune idly with one another.

During his residence in Holland he had made himself acquainted with the best authors in the French language, so that he was able to share in their conversation; a circumstance from which he found great benefit; for, it not only improved him in his knowledge of that tongue, but also tended to the enlargement of his acquaintance, in the course of which he contracted intimacies in some families of good fashion, especially those of the long robe, which would have enabled him to pass his time very agreeably, had he been a little easier in point of fortune: but his sinances, notwithstanding the most rigid oeconomy, being

in a few months reduced to a very low ebb, the prospect of indigence threw a damp upon all his pleasures, though he never suffered himself to be thereby, in any degree, dispirited; being in that respect of so happy a disposition, that conscious poverty or abundance made very slight impres-

fions upon his mind.

This confumption of his cash, however, involved him in some perplexity; and he deliberated with himself, whether he should return to General Collier, or repair to London, where he might possibly fall into some business not unbecoming a gentleman; though he was very much mortisted to find himself incapable of gratifying an inordinate desire which possessed him of making the grand tour, or, at least of visiting the southern parts of France.

While he thus hesitated between different suggestions, he was one morning visited by a gentleman who had sought and cultivated his friendship, and for whom he had done a good office, in supporting him with spirit, against a brutal German, with whom he had an affair of honour. This gentleman came to propose a party for a fortnight to Fountainbleau, where the court then was; and the proposal being declined by Mwith more than usual shiffness, his friend was very nrgent to know the reason of his resusal, and at length, with some confusion, said, "Perhaps your sinances are low." Mwreplied, that he had wherewithal to descript the expence of his

journey to London, where he could be furnished with a fresh supply; and this answer was no sooner made, than the other taking him by the hand, "My dear friend (said he) I am not unacquainted with your affairs, and would have offered you my credit long ago, if I had thought it would be acceptable; even now, I do not pretend to give you money, but desire and insist upon it, that you will accept of the loan of these two pieces of paper, to be repaid when you marry a woman with a fortune of twenty thousand pounds, or obtain an employment of a thousand a year." So saying, he presented himself with two actions of about two thousand livres each.

M-was aftonished at this unexpected instance of generolity in a stranger, and with suitable acknowledgment, peremptorily refused to incur fuch an obligation; but at length, he was, by dint of importunity and warm exposulation, prevailed upon to accept one of the actions, on condition that the gentleman would take his note for the fum; and this he absolutely rejected, until M- promised to draw upon him for double the value or more, in case he should at any time want a farther supply. This uncommon act of friendship and generofity M- afterwards had an opportunity to repay ten fold, though he could not help regretting the occafion, on his friend's account. That worthy man having, by placing too much confidence in a villainous lawyer, and a chain of other misfortunes,

rinth of difficulties, which threatened the total ruin of his family; M—— felt the inexpressible fatisfaction of delivering his benefactor from the snare.

Being thus reinforced by the generofity of his friend, M- resolved to execute his former plan of feeing the fouth of France, together with the fea-ports of Spain as far as Cadiz, from whence he proposed to take a passage for London by fea, and with this view fent forwards his trunks by the Diligence to Lyons, determined to ride post in order to enjoy a better view of the country, and for the conveniency of stopping at those places where there was any thing remarkable to be seen or inquired into. While he was employed in taking leave of his Parisian friends, who furnished him with abundant recommendation, a gentleman of his own country who spoke little or no French, hearing of his intention begged the favour of accompanying him in his expedition.

With this new companion, therefore, he set out for Lyons, where he was perfectly well received by the intendant and some of the best families of the place, in consequence of his letters of recommendation; and after a short stay in that city proceeded down the Rhone to Avignon, in what is called the coche d'eau; then visiting the principal towns of Dauphine, Languedoc, and Provence, he returned to the delightful city

of Marseilles, where he and his fellow-traveller were so much captivated by the serenity of the air, the good-nature and hospitality of the sprightly inhabitants, that they never dreamed of changing their quarters during the whole winter and part of the spring: here he acquired the acquaintance of the marquis D'Argens, attorney-general in the parliament of Aix, and of his eldest son, who now makes so great a figure in the literary world; and when the affair of father Girard and Madamoiselle Cadiere began to make a noise, he accompanied these two gentlemen to Toulon, where the marquis was ordered to take precognition of the facts.

On his return to Marseilles he found a certain noble lord of great fortune—under the direction of a Swiss governor, who had accommodated him with two of his own relations of the same country, by way of companions, together with five servants in his train. They being absolute strangers in the place, M——introduced them to the intendant and several other good families; and had the good fortune to be so agreeable to his lordship, that he proposed, and even pressed him to live with him in England as a friend and companion; and to take upon him the superintendance of his affairs, in which case he would settle upon him four hundred a year for life.

This proposal was too advantageous to be slighted by a person of no fortune or fixed establishment: he therefore made no difficulty of

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closing with it: but as his lordship's departure was fixed to a short day, and he urged him to accompany him to Paris, and from thence to England, M- thought it would be improper and indecent to interfere with the office of his governor, who might take umbrage at his favour, and therefore excused himself from a compliance with his lordship's request, until his minority should be expired, as he was within a few months of being of age. However, he repeated his importunities fo earnestly, and the governor joined in the request, with such appearance of cordiality, that he was prevailed upon to comply with their joint defire; and in a few days fet out with them for Paris by the way of Lyons. But before they had been three days in this city. M- perceived a total change in the behaviour of the Swifs and his two relations, who, in all probability, became jealous of his influence with his lordship; and he no sooner made this discovery than he resolved to withdraw himself from fuch a disagreeable participation of that young nobleman's favour. He therefore, in spite of all his lordship's intreaties and remonstrances, quitted him for the present; alledging, as a pretext, that he had a longing defire to fee Switzerland and the banks of the Rhine, and promiling to meet him again in England.

This his intention being made known to the governor and his friends, their countenances immediately cleared up, their courtefy and com-

plaifance returned, and they even furnished him with letters for Geneva, Lausane, Barn and Soleures; in consequence of which he met with unusual civilities at these places. Having made this tour with his Scots friend, (who came up to him before he lest Lyons) and visited the most considerable towns on both sides of the Rhine, and the courts of the Electors, Palatine, Mentz, and Cologu, he arrived in Holland; and from thence, through the Netherlands, repaired to London, where he found my lord just returned from Paris.

His lordship received him with expressions of uncommon joy, would not suffer him to stir from him for several days, and introduced him to his relations.

M— accompanied his lordship from London to his country-seat, where he was indeed treated with great friendship and considence, and consulted in every thing; but the noble peer never once made mention of the annuity which he had promised to settle upon him; nor did M— remind him of it, because he conceived it was his affair to sulfil his engagements of his own accordance being tired of the manner of living at this place, made an excursion to Bath, where he staid about a fortnight, to partake of the diversions; and, upon his return, sound his lordship making dispositions for another journey to Paris.

Surprised at this sudden resolution, he endea-

voured to diffuade him from it : but his remonfrances were rendered ineffectual by the infinuations of a foreigner who had come over with him, and filled his imagination with extravagant notions of pleafure, infinitely fuperior to any which he could enjoy while he was in the trammels, and under the restraints of a governor. He therefore turned a deaf ear to all M-'s arguments, and intreated him to accompany him in the journey; but this gentleman, forefeeing that a young man, like my lord, of ftrong passions and eafy to be misled, would, in all probability, squander away great fums of money, in a way that would neither do credit to himself, or to those who were concerned with him, refifted all his folicitations, on pretence of having bufiness of consequence at London; and afterwards had reaion to be extremely well pleafed with his own conduct in this particular.

Before he fet out on this expedition, M—, in justice to himself, reminded him of the proposal which he had made to him at Marfeilles, desiring to know if he had altered his design in that particular; in which case he would turn his thoughts some other way; as he would not in the least be thought to intrude or pin himself upon any man. My lord protested, in the most solemn manner, that he still continued in his former resolution; and again beseeching him to bear him company into France, promised that every thing should be settled to his satisfaction, upon

their return to England. M-, however, still perfisted in his refusal, for the above-mentioned reason, and though he never heard more of the annuity, he, nevertheless, continued to ferve his lordship with his advice and good offices ever after; particularly in directing his choice to an alliance with a lady of eminent virtue, the daughter of a noble lord, more confpicuous for his thining parts than the fplendor of his titles, (a circumstance upon which he always reflected with particular fatisfaction, as well on account of the extraordinary merit of the lady, as because it vested in her children a confiderable part of that great estate, which, of right, belonged to her grandmother) and afterwards put him in a way to retrieve his estate from a heavy load of debt he had contracted. When my lord fet out on his Paris expedition. the money M- had received from his generous friend at Paris was almost reduced to the last guinear. He had not yet reaped the least benefit from his engagements with his lordship: and disdaining to alk for a supply from him, he knew not how to subsist, with any degree of credit, 'till his roturn.

This uncomfortable prospect was the more disagreeable to him, as, at that time of life, he was much inclined to appear in the gay world, had contracted a taste for plays, operas, and other public diversions, and acquired an acquaintance with many people of good sashion, which

could not be maintained without a confiderable expence. In this emergency, he thought he could not employ his idle time more profitably than in translating from foreign languages such books as were then chiefly in vogue; and upon application to a friend, who was a man of lesters, he was furnished with as much business of that kind as he could possibly manage, and wrote fome pamphlets on the reigning controversies of that time, that had the good fortune to pleafe. He was also concerned in a monthly journal of literatures, and the work was carried on by the two friends jointly, though M-did not at all appear in the partnership. By these means he not only fpent his mornings in uleful exercife, but supplied himself with money for what the French call the menus plaisirs, during the whole summer. He frequented all the assemblies. in and about London, and confiderably enlarged his acquaintance among the fair fex.

He had upon his first arrival in England become acquainted with a lady at an assembly not far from London: and though at that time he had no thoughts of extending his views further than the usual gallantry of the place, he met with such distinguishing marks of her regard in the sequel, and was so particularly encouraged by the advice of another lady, with whom he had been intimate in France, and who was now of their parties, that he could not help entertaining hopes of making an impression upon the heart of his agreeable

partner, who was a young lady of an ample fortune, and great expectations. He, therefore, cultivated her good graces with all the affiduity and address of which he was master; and succeeded so well in his endeavours, that after a due course of attendance, and the death of an aunt, by which she received an accession of fortune, to the amount of three and twenty thousand pounds, he ventured to declare his passion, and she not only heard him with patience and approbation, but also replied in terms adequate to his warmest wish.

Finding himself fo favourably received, he pressed her to secure his happiness by marriage; but, to this proposal, she objected the recency of her kinfwoman's death, which would have rendered fuch a step highly indecent, and the displeasure of her other relations, from whom she had still greater expectations, and who at that time importuned her to marry a confin of her own whom the could not like. However, that M- might have no canse to repine at her delay, she freely entered with him into an intimacy of correspondence: during which, nothing could have added to their mutual felicity, which was the more poignant and refined, from the mysterious and romantic manner of their enjoying it; for though he publicly visited her as an acquaintance, his behaviour, on these occasions, was always so distant, respectful and reserved, that the rest of the company could not possibly suspect the nature of their reciprocal attachment; in consequence of

which, they used to have private interviews, unknown to every soul upon earth, except her maid, who was necessarily entrusted with the seeret.

In this manner they enjoyed the conversation of each other for above twelve months, without the least interruption; and though the stability of Mr M——'s fortune entirely depended upon their marriage, yet as he perceived his mistress so averse to it, he never urged it with vehemence, nor was at all anxious on that score; being easily induced to defer a ceremony, which, as he then thought, could in no shape have added to their satisfaction, though he hath since altered his sentiments.

Be that as it will, his indulgent mistress, in order to set his mind at ease in that particular, and in sull considence of his honour, insisted on his accepting a deed of gift of her whole fortune, in consideration of their intended marriage; and after some difficulty he was prevailed upon to receive this proof of her esteem, well knowing that it would still be in his power to return the obligation. Though she often intreated him to take upon himself the entire administration of her sinances, and upon divers occasions pressed him to accept of large sums, he never once abused her generous disposition, or solicited her for money, except for some humane purpose, which she was always more ready to sulfil than he to propose.

In the course of this correspondence, he be-

came acquainted with some of her female relations; and, among the rest, with a young lady, so eminently adorned with all the qualifications of mind and person, that notwithstanding all his philosophy and caution, he could not behold and converse with her, without being deeply smitten with her charms. He did all in his power to difcourage this dangerous invasion in the beginning, and to conceal the least symptom of it from her relations: he summoned all his reflection to his aid; and thinking it would be base and dishonest to cherish any fentiment repugnant to the affection which he owed to a miltrefs, who had placed fuch unlimited confidence in him, he attempted to stifle the infant flame by avoiding the amiable inspirer of it. But the passion had taken too deep a root at his heart, to be fo easily extirpated; his absence from the dear object increased the impatience of his love. The intestine conflict between that and gratitude deprived him of his rest and appetite. He was, in a short time, emaciated by continual watching, anxiety, and want of nourishment; and so much altered from his ufual chearfulness, that his mistress being furpris fed and alarmed at the change, which, from the fymptoms, the judged was owing to fome uneafinels of mind, took all imaginable pains to difcover the caufe.

In all probability it did not escape her penetration; for she more than once asked if he was in love with her cousin; protesting that, far from

being an obstacle to his happiness, she would, in that case, be an advocate for his passion. However, this declaration was never made without manifest signs of anxiety and uneasiness, which madesuch an impression upon the heart of M——, that he resolved to facrisice his happiness, and even his life, rather than take any step which might be construed into an injury or insult to a a person who had treated him with such generosity and goodness.

In confequence of this resolution, he formed another, which was to go abroad, under pretence of recovering his health, but in reality to avoid the temptation, as well as the fufpicion of being inconstant; and in this design he was confirmed by his phyfician, who actually thought him in the first stage of a confumption, and therefore advifed him to repair to the fouth of France. He communicated his delign, with the doctor's opinion, to the lady, who agreed to it with much lefs difficulty than he found in conquering his own reluctance at parting with the dear object of his love. The confent of his generous mistress being obtained, he waited upon her with the inftrument whereby she had made the conveyance of her fortune to him; and all his remonstrances being insufficient to perfuade her to take it back, he cancelled it in her presence, and placed it in that state upon her toilet, while she was dreffing; whereupon she shed a torrent of tears, saying, the now plainly perceived that he wanted to tear himself from her, and that his affections were settled upon another. He was sensibly affected by this proof of her concern; and endeavoured to calm the perturbation of her mind, by vowing eternal sidelity, and pressing her to accept of his hand in due form before his departure. By these means her transports were quieted for the prefent, and the marriage deserved, for the same prudential reasons which had hitherto prevented it.

Matters being thus compromised, and the day fixed for his departure, the, together with her faithful maid, one morning vifited him for the first time at his own lodgings; and after breakfast, desiring to speak with him in private, he conducted her into another room, where affuming an unufual gravity of afpect, "My dear M-(faid she) you are now going to leave me, and God alone knows if ever we shall meet again: therefore, if you really love me with that tenderness which you profess, you will accept of this mark of my friendship and unalterable affection; it will at least be a provision for your journey: and if any accident should befal me, before I have the happiness of receiving you again into my arms, I shall have the fatisfaction of knowing that you are not altogether without recourse." So faying, fhe put an embroidered pocket-book into his hand. He expressed the high sense he had of her generolity and affection in the most pathetic terms, and begged leave to suspend his acceptance until he should know the contents of her present, which was so extraordinary, that he absolutely resuled to receive it: he was, however, by her repeated intreaties, in a manner compelled to receive about one half, and she afterwards insisted upon his taking a reinforcement of a considerable sum for the expence of his journey.

- Having stayed with her ten days beyond the time he had fixed for his departure, and fettled the method of their correspondence, he took his leave with an heart full of forrow, anxiety, and distraction, produced from the different suggestions of his duty and love. He then fet out for France. and after a fhort flay at Paris, proceeded to Aix in Provence, and from thence to Marfeilles, at which two places he continued for fome months: but nothing he met with being able to dislipate those melancholy ideas which still preyed upon his imagination, and affected his spirits, he endeavoured to elude them with a succession of new objects; and with that view, perfuaded a counseller of the parliament of Aix, a man of great worth, learning, and good humour, to accompany him in making a tour of those parts of France which he had not yet feen. On their return from this excursion, they found at Aix an Italian Abbe, a person of character, and great knowledge of men, and books, who having travelled all over Germany and France, was so far on his return to his own country.

M-- having by means of his friend the coun-

fellor, contracted an acquaintance with this gentleman, and being defirous of feeing some parts of Italy, particularly the carnival at Venice, they fet out together from Marseilles, in a tartan, for Genoa, coasting it all the way, and lying on shore every night. Having shewn him what was most remarkable in this city, his friend the Abbe was fo obliging, as to conduct him through Tufcany, and the most remarkable cities in Lombardy to Venice, where M \_\_\_ infifted upon defraying the expence of the whole tour, in confideration of the Abbe's complaifance, which had been of infinite service to him in the course of this expedition. Having remained five weeks at Venice. he was prepared to fet out for Rome with some English gentlemen whom he had met by accident. when he was all of a fudden obliged to change his resolution by some disagreeable letters which he received from London. He had, from his first departure, corresponded with his generous, tho' inconstant mistress, with a religious exactness and punctuality; nor was she, for some time. less observant of the agreement they had made. Nevertheless, she, by degrees, became so negligent and cold in her expression, and so slack in her correspondence, that he could not help observing and upbraiding her with fuch indifference: and her endeavours to palliate it were supported by pretexts fo frivolous as to be eafily feen thro' by a lover of very little discernment.

While he tortured himself with conjectures Vol. IV.

about the cause of this unexpected change, he received such intelligence from England, as when joined with what he himself had perceived by her manner of writing, left him little or no room to doubt of her sickleness and inconstancy. Nevertheless, as he knew by experience, that informations of that kind are not to be entirely relied upon, he resolved to be more certainly apprised; and, for that end, departed immediately for London, by the way of Tirol, Bavaria, Alsace, and Paris.

On his arrival in England, he learned with infinite concern, that his intelligence had not been at all exaggerated; and his forrow was inexpresfible, to find a person, endowed with so many other noble and amiable qualities, feduced into an indifcretion, that of necessity ruined the whole plan which had been concerted between them for their mutual happiness. She made several attempts, by letters and interviews, to palliate her conduct, and foften him into a reconciliation; but his honour being concerned, he remained deaf to all her intreaties and proposals. Neverthelefs, I have often heard him fay, that he could not help loving ber, and revering the memory of a person to whose generofity and goodness he owed his fortune, and one whose foibles were overbalanced by a thousand good qualities. He often infifted on making restitution; but far from complying with that propofal, she afterwards often endeavoured to lay him under yet greater

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obligations of the same kind, and importuned him, with the warmest solicitations, to renew their former correspondence, which he as often declined.

M- took this instance of the inconstancy of the fex fo much to heart, that he had almost refolved, for the future, to keep clear of all engagements for life, and returned to Paris in order to diffipate his anxiety, where he hired an apartment in one of the academies, in the exercifes whereof he took fingular delight. During his residence at this place he had the good fortune to ingratiate himself with a great general, a descendant of one of the most ancient and illustrious families in France; having attracted his notice by some remarks he had written on Folard's Polybius, which were accidentally shewn to that great man by one of his aids du camp, who was a particular friend of M..... The favour he had thus acquired, was strengthened by his affiduities and attention. Upon his return to London, he fent some of Handel's newest compositions to the prince, who was particularly fond of that gentleman's productions; together with Clark's edition of Cæfar; and in the fpring of the same year, before the French army took the field, he was honoured with a most obliging letter from the prince, inviting him to come over, if he wanted to fee the operations of the campaign, and defiring he would give himself no trouble about his equipage.

M- having still some remains of a military disposition, and conceiving this to be a more favourable opportunity than any he should ever meet with again, readily embraced the offer, and facrificed the foft delights of love, which at that time he enjoyed without controul, to an eager, laborious, and dangerous curiofity. In that and the following campaign, during which he was present at the siege of Philipsburgh, and several other actions, he enlarged his acquaintance among the French officers, especially those of the graver fort, who had a tafte for books and literature, and the friendship and interest of those gentlemen were afterwards of fingular fervice to him, though in an affair altogether foreign from their profession.

He had all along made diligent inquiry into the trade and manufactures of the countries through which he had occasion to travel, more particularly those of Holland, England, and France; and as he was well acquainted with the revenue and farms of this last kingdom, he saw, with concern, the great disadvantages under which our tobaccotrade (the most considerable branch of our commerce with that people) was carried on; what inconsiderable returns were made to the planters out of the low price given by the French company; and how much it was in the power of that company to reduce it still lower. M—had formed a scheme to remedy this evil, so far as it related to the national loss or gain, by not

permitting the duty of one penny in the pound, old fublidy, to be drawn back on tobacco re-exported. He demonstrated to the ministry of that time, that fo inconsiderable a duty could not inthe least diminish the demand from abroad, which was the only circumstance to be apprehended. and that the yearly produce of that revenue would amount to one hundred and twenty thoufand pounds, without one shilling additional expence to the public; but the ministry having the excise scheme then in contemplation, could think of no other till that should be tried; and that project having miscarried, he renewed his application, when they approved of his scheme in every particular, but discovered a surprising backwardness to carry it into execution.

His expectation in this quarter being difappointed, he, by the interpolition of his friends. presented a plan to the French company, in which he fet forth the advantages that would accrue to themselves, from fixing the price, and fecuring that fort of tobacco which best suited the tafte of the public and their manufacture: and finally proposed to furnish them with any quantity at the price which they paid in the port of London.

After some dispute, they agreed to his propofal, and contracted with him for fifteen thousand hogheads a-year, for which they obliged themfelves to pay ready money, on its arrival in any one or more convenient ports in the fouth or

western coasts of Great Britain, that he should please to fix upon for that purpose. M—— no sooner obtained this centract, than he immediately set out for America, in order to put it in execution; and by way of companion carried with him a little French Abbe, a man of humour, wit, and learning, with whom he had been long acquainted, and for whom he had done many good offices.

On his arrival at Virginia, which opportunely happened at a time when all the gentlemen were affembled in the capital of that province, he published a memorial, representing the disadvantages under which their trade was carried on, the true method of redressing their own grievances in that respect, and proposing to contract with them for the yearly quantity of fisteen thousand hogsheads of such tobacco as was fit for the French market, as the price which he demonstrated to be considerably greater than that which they had formerly received.

This remonstrance met with all the success and encouragement he could expect; the principal planters seeing their own interest concerned, readily assented to the proposal, which, through their influence, was also relished by the rest; and the only disticulty that remained, related to the security for payment of the bills on the arrival of the tobacco in England, and to the time stipulated for the continuance of the contract.

Inorder to remove these objections, Mr.M-

returned to Europe, and found the French company of farmers disposed to agree to every thing he defired for facilitating the execution of the contract, and perfectly well pleased with the fample which he had already fent; but his good friend the Abbe, (whom he had left behind him in America) by an unparalleled piece of treachery, found means to overturn the whole project. He fecretly wrote a memorial to the company, importing, that he found by experience, M-could afford to furnish them at a much lower price than that which they had agreed to give: and that, by being in possession of the contract for five years, as was intended according to the proposal, he would have the company for much in his power, that they must afterwards fubmit to any price he should please to impose: and that if they thought him worthy of fuch a trust he would undertake to furnish them at an easier rate, in conjunction with some of the leading men in Virginia and Maryland, with whom, he faid, he had already concerted measures for that purpole.

The company were so much alarmed at these infinuations, that they declined complying with Mr M—'s demands until the Abbe's return; and though they afterwards used all their endeavours to persuade him to be concerned with that little traitor in his undertaking, (by which he might still have been a very considerable gainer,) he resisted all their solicitations, and plainly told

them in the Abbe's presence, that he would nester prostitute his own principles so far, as to enter, into engagements of any kind with a person of his character, much less in a scheme that had a manifest tendency to lower the market-price of

tobacco in England.

Thus ended a project the most extensive, simple and easy, and (as appeared by the trial made) the best calculated to raise an immense fortune of any that was ever undertaken or planned by a private person; a project in the execution of which, M-had the good of the public, and the glory of putting in a flourishing conditionthat valuable branch of our trade (which gives employment to two great provinces, and above two hundred fail of thips) much more at heart than his own private interest. It was reasonable to expect, that a man whose debts M-- had paid more than once, whom he had obliged in many other respects, and whom he had carried with him at a very confiderable expence, on this expedition, merely with a view of bettering his fortune, would have acted with common honesty, if not with gratitude; but fuch was the depravity of this little monster's heart, that on hisdeath-bed he left a considerable fortune to mere ftrangers, with whom he had little or no connection, without the least thought of refunding the money advanced for him by M-- in order to prevent his rotting in jail.

When M-had once obtained a command

of money, he, by his knowledge in several branches of trade, as well as by the assistance of some intelligent friends at Paris and London, sound means to employ it to a very good purpose, and had he been a man of that selfish disposition, which too much prevails in the world, he might have been at this day master of a very ample fortune: but his ear was never deaf to the voice of distress, nor his beneficent heart shut against the calamities of his sellow-creatures. He was even ingenious in contriving the most delicate methods of relieving modest indigence, and, by his industrious benevolence, often anticipated the requests of misery.

I could relate a number of examples to illustrate my affertions, in some of which you would perceive the most difinterested generosity; but fuch a detail would trespass too much upon your time, and I do not pretend to dwell upon every minute circumstance of his conduct. Let it suffice to fay, that upon the declaration of war with Spain, he gave up all his commercial schemes, and called in his money from all quarters, with a view of fitting down, for the rest of his life, contented with what he had got, and restraining his liberalities to what he could spare from his yearly income. This was a very prudential refolution, could he have kept it; but, upon the breaking out of the war, he could not without concern fee many gentlemen of merit, who had been recommended to him, disappointed of com-

missions, merely for want of money to satisfy the expectations of the commission-brokers of that time; and therefore launched out considerable sums for them on their bare notes, great part whereof was lost by the death of some in the unfortunate expedition to the West-Indies.

He, at length, after many other actions of the like nature, from motives of pure humanity, love of justice, and abhorrence of oppression, embarked in a cause every way the most important that ever came under the discussion of the courts of law in these kingdoms; whether it be considered in relation to the extraordinary nature of the case, or the immense property of no less than fifty thousand pounds a-year, and three peerages that depended upon it.

In the year 1740, the brave admiral, who at that time commanded his majesty's sleet in the West-Indies, among the other transactions of his squadron, transmitted to the Duke of Newcastle, mentioned a young man, who, though in the capacity of a common sailor on board one of the ships under his command, laid claim to the estate and titles of the earl of A——. These pretensions were no sooner communicated in the public papers, than they became the subject of conversation in all companies; and the person whom they chiefly affected, being alarmed at the appearance of a competitor, though at such distance, began to put himself in motion, and take all the precautions which he thought necessary to defeat

the endeavour of the young upflart. Indeed the early intelligence he received of Mr A-y's making himself known in the West-Indies, furnished him with numberless advantages over that unhappy young gentleman; for, being in possession of a plentiful fortune, and lord of many manors in the neighbourhood of the very place where the claimant was born, he knew all the witnesses who could give the most material evidence of his legitimacy; and if his probity did not restrain him, had, by his power and influence, fufficient opportunity and means of applying to the passions and interests of the witnesses, to silence many, and gain over others to his fide: while his competitor, by an absence of fifteen or sixteen years from his native country, the want of education and friends, together with his present helples fituation, was rendered absolutely incapable of taking any step for his own advantage. And although his worthy uncle's conspicuous virtue and religious regard for justice and truth might possibly be an unconquerable restraint to his taking any undue advantages; yet the consciences of that huge army of emissaries he kept in pay, were not altogether fo very tender and fcrupu-This much, however, may be faid, without derogation from, or impeachment of the noble Earl's nice virtue and honour, that he took care to compromife all differences with the other branches of the family, whose interests, were, in this affair, connected with his own, by sharing

the estate with them, and also retained most of the eminent council within the bar of both kingdoms against this formidable bastard, before any suit was instituted by him.

While he was thus entrenching himself against the attack of a poor forlorn youth, at the distance of fifteen hundred leagues, continually exposed to the dangers of the sea, the war, and an unhealthy climate, Mr M—, in the common course of conversation, chanced to ask some questions relating to this romantic pretender, of one H—, who was at that time the present lord A—y's chief agent. This man, when pressed, could not help owning that the late Lord A—m actually left a son, who had been spirited away into America, soon after his father's death; but said he did not know whether this was the same person.

This information could not fail to make an impression on the humanity of Mr M——, who, being acquainted with the genius of the wicked party who had possessed themselves of this unbappy young man's estate and honours, expressed no small anxiety and apprehension less they should take him off by some means or other; and even then seemed disposed to contribute towards the support of the friendless orphan, and to inquire more circumstantially into the nature of the claim. In the mean time, his occasions called him to France; and, during his absence, Mr A——y arrived in London, in the month of October 1741.

Here the clergyman was interrupted by Peregrine, who said there was something so extraordinary, not to call it improbable, in the account he had heard of the young gentleman's being sent into exile, that he would look upon himself as infinitely obliged to the doctor, if he would favour him with a true representation of that transaction, as well as of the manner in which he arrived and was known at the island of Jamaica.

The parson, in compliance with our hero's request, taking up the flory from the beginning, " Mr A-y (faid he) is the fon of Arthur late Lord Baron of A-m, by his wife Mary Sh-d, natural daughter to John Duke of B and N by whom he publicly married on the 21st day of July 1706, contrary to the inclination of his mother and all his other relations, particularly Arthur late Earl of A-y. who bore an implacable enmity to the Duke her father, and for that reason, did all that lay in his power to traverse the marriage; but finding his endeavours ineffectual, he was so much offended that he would never be perfectly reconciled to Lord A-m, though he was his prefumptive heir. After their nuptials, they cohabited together in England for the space of two or three years; during which she miscarried more than once: and he being a man of levity, and an extravagant disposition, not only squandered away all that he had received of his wife's for-

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tune, but also contracted many considerable debts, which obliged him to make a precipitate retreat into Ireland, leaving his lady behind him in the house with his mother and sister; who, having also been averse to the match, had always looked upon her with eyes of disgust.

It was not likely that harmony should long Subfift in this family, especially as lady A-m was a woman of a lofty fpirit, who could not tamely bear infults and ill-ulage from perfons, who, she had reason to believe, were her enemies at heart. Accordingly a mifunderstanding foon happened among them, which was fomented by the malice of one of her fifters-in-law: divers scandalous reports of her misconduct, to which the empty pretentions of a vain, wretched coxcomb (who was made use of as an infamous tool for that purpose) gave a colourable pretext were trumped up, and transmitted, with many false and aggravating circumstances, to her husband in Ireland; who being a giddy unthinking man, was fo much incensed at these infinuations, that, in the first transports of his passion, he sent to his mother a power of attorney, that she might fue for a divorce in his behalf. A libel was thereupon exhibited, containing many fcandalous allegations, void of any real foundation in truth; but being unsupported by any manner of proof, it was at length dismissed with costs, after it had depended upwards of two years.

Lord A-m, finding himself abused by the

## PEREGRINE PICKLE. 231

milrepresentations of his mother and fifter, difcovered an inclination to be reconciled to his lady: in confequence of which, the was fent over. to Dublin by her father, to the care of a gentleman in that city; in whole house she was received by her husband, with all the demonstrations of love and esteem. From thence he conducted her to his lodgings, and then to his country-house; where she had the misfortune to suffer a misearriage, through fear and resentment of my lord's behaviour, which was often brutal and indecent. From the country they removed to Dublin about the latter end of July, or beginning of August 1714; where they had not long continued; when her ladyship was known to be again with child.

Lord A—m and his issue being next in remainder to the honours and estate of Arthur Earl of A—a, was extremely solicitous to have a son, and warned by the frequent miscarriages of his lady, resolved to curb the natural impatience and rusticity of his disposition, that she might not, as formerly, suffer by his outragious conduct. He accordingly cherished her with uncommon tenderness and care; and her pregnancy being pretty far advanced, conducted her to his country-seat, where she was delivered of Mr A—y, about the latter end of April or beginning of May; for none of the witnesses have been able, at this distance, with absolute certainty, to six the precise time of his birth, and

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there was no register kept in the parish: as an additional misfortune, no gentleman of fashion lived in that parish; nor did those who lived at any considerable distance, care to cultivate an acquaintance with a man of Lord A—m's strange conduct.

Be that as it will, the occasion was celebrated by his lordship's tenants and dependants upon the spot, and in the neighbouring town of New R—ss, by bone fires, illuminations and other rejoicings; which have made such an impression upon theminds of the people, that in the place where they happened, and the contiguous parishes, several hundred persons have already declared their knowledge and remembrance of this event, in spite of the great power of the claimant's adversary in that quarter, and the great pains and indirect methods taken by his numberless agents and emissaries, as well as by those who are interested with him, in the event of the suit, to corrupt and suppress the evidence.

Lord A—m, after the birth of his son, who was sent to nurse in the neighbourhood, according to the custom of the country, (where people of the highest distinction put their children out to nurse into farm-houses and cabbins) lived in harmony with his lady for the space of two years: but having by his folly and extravagance reduced himself to great difficulties, he demanded the remainder of her fortune from her father the Duke of B——, who absolutely resuled to

part with a shilling until a proper settlement should be made on his daughter, which, by that time he had put out of his own power to make, by his folly and extravagance.

As her ladyship, by her endeavours to reform the occonomy of her house, had incurred the difpleasure of some idle, profligate fellows, who had fastened themselves upon her husband, and helped to confume his fubstance, they feized this opportunity of the duke's refulal; and in order to be revenged upon the innocent lady, persuaded lord ney from his Grace would be to turn her away, on pretence of infidelity to his bed, for which, they hinted, there was but too much foundation. At their fuggellions, a most infamous plan was projected; in the execution of which, one Pa poor, unbred, fimple country booby, whom they had decoyed into a fnare, loft one of his ears, and the injured lady retired that fame day to New-R-fs, where the continued feveral years. She did not; however, leave the house without ftruggling hard to carry her child along with her : but far from enjoying fach indulgence, firict orders were given, that the boy should not, for the future, be brought within her fight. This bafe, inhuman treatment, inflead of answering the end proposed, produced such a contrary effect, that the duke of B ...., by a codicil to his will, in which he reflects upon lord A-m's evil temper, directed his executors to pay his daughter

While the remained in this folitary fituation, the child was univerfally known and received as the legitimate fon and heir of her lord, whose affection for the boy was so conspicuous, that in the midst of his own necessities, he never failed to maintain him in the drefs and equipage of a young nobleman. In the course of his infancy, his father having often changed his place of refidence, the child was put under the infructions of a great many different schoolmasters, fo that he was perfectly well known in a great many different parts of the kingdom; and his mother feized all opportunities (which were but rare, on account of his father's orders to the contrary) of feeing and giving him proofs of her maternal tenderness, until the set out for England, after having been long in a declining state of health, by a paralytical disorder; upon the consequence of which, fuch dependance was placed by her inconfiderate husband, who was by this time reduced to extreme poverty, that he actually married a woman whom he had long kept as a mistress. This creature no fooner understood that lady Al-m was departed from Ireland, than the openly avowed her marriage, and went about publicly with lord A-m, vifiting his acquaintances in the character of his wife.

From this æra may be dated the beginning of

Mr A-y's misfortunes: this artful woman, who had formerly treated the child with an appearance of fondness in order to ingratiate here felf with the father, now looking upon herfelf as fufficiently established in the family, thought it was high time to alter her behaviour with regard to the unfortunate boy; and accordingly, for obvious reasons, employed a thousand artifices to alienate the heart of the weak father from his unhappy offspring; yet notwithflanding all her infinuations, nature still maintained her influence in his heart; and though the often found means to irritate him by artful and malicious accufations, his refentment never extended farther than fatherly correction. She would have found it impossible to accomplish his ruin, had not her efforts been reinforced by a new auxiliary, who was no other than his uncle, the prefent usurper of his title and estate; yet even this confederacy was over-awed, in some measure, by the fear of alarming the unfortunate mother, until her distemper increased to a most deplorable degree of the dead palfy, and the death of her father had reduced her to a most forlorn and abject state of distress. Then they ventured upon the execution of their projects; and (though their aims were widely different) concurred in their endeavours to remove the hapless boy, as the common obstacle to both.

Lord Al-m, who, (as I have already observed) was a man of weak intellects, and utterly

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void of any fixed principle of action, being by this time reduced to fuch a pitch of mifery, that he was often obliged to pawn his wearing apparel, in order to procure the common necessaries of life; and having no other fund remaining, with which he could relieve his prefent necessities, except a fale of the reversion of the A-a estate, to which the non-age of his fon was an effectual. bar, he was advised by his virtuous brother and the rest of his counsellors, to furmount this difficulty, by fecreting his fon, and fpreading a report of his death. This honest project he the more readily embraced, because he knew that no. act of his could frustrate the child's succession. Accordingly, the boy was removed from the school at which he was then boarded, to the house of one K-gh, an agent and accomplice of the prefent earl of A--- a, where he was kept for feveral months closely confined; and, in the mean time, it was industriously reported that he was dead

This previous measure being taken, lord A-m published advertisements in the gazettes, offering reversions of the A-a estate to sale; and emissaries of various kinds were employed, to inveigle such as were ignorant of the nature of the settlement of these estates, or strangers to the affairs of his family. Some people, imposed upon by the report of the child's death, were drawn into purchase, thinking themselves safe in the concurrence of his lordship's brother, upon presumption

that he was next in remainder to the fuccession; others, tempted by the smallness of the price, (which rarely exceeded half a year's purchase, as appears by many deeds) though they doubted the truth of the boy's being dead, ran small risks on the contingency of his dying before he should be of age, or in hope of his being prevailed upon to confirm the grants of his father; and many more were treating with him on the fame notions, when their transactions were suddenly interrupted, and the scheme of raising more money for the prefent, defeated by the unexpected appearance of the boy, who being naturally sprightly and impatient of restraint, had found means to break from his confinement, and wandered up and down the streets of Dublin, avoiding his father's house, and choosing to encounter all forts of distress, rather than subject himself again to the cruelty and malice of the woman who fupplied his mother's place. Thus debarred his father's protection, and destitute of any fixed habitation, he herded with all the loofe, idle, and diforderly youths in Dublin, skulking chiefly about the college, several members and students of which, taking pity on his misfortunes, supplied him at different times with cloaths and money. In this unfettled and uncomfortable way of life did he remain, from the year 1725, to the latter end of November 1727: at which time his father died fo miserably poor, that he was actually buried at the public expence.

This unfortunate nobleman was no fooner dead, than his brother Richard, now earl of A-a. taking advantage of the non-age and helplels fituation of his nephew, feized upon all the papers of the defunct; and afterwards usurped the title of lord A-m, to the furprise of the fervants, and others who were acquainted with the affairs of the family. This usurpation, bold as it was, produced no other effect than that of his being infulred by the populace as he went through the fireets, and the refufal of the king at arms to enrol the certificate of his brother's having died without iffue. The first of these inconveniences he bore without any fense of shame, though not without repining, conscious that it would gradually vanish with the novelty of his invasion; and as to the laft, he conquered it by means well known and obvious.

Nor will it feem strange, that he should thus invade the right of an orphan with impunity, if people will consider, that the late lord A——m had not only squandered away his fortune, with the most ridiculous extravagance, but also associated himself with a company; so that he was little known and less regarded by persons of any rank and sigure in life; and his child, of consequence, debarred of the advantages which might have accrued from valuable connexions. And, though it was universally known, that lady A—m had a son in Ireland, such was the obscurity in which the father had lived, during the last years

of his life, that few of the nobility could be fupposed to be acquainted with the particular circumstances of a transaction in which they had no concern, and which had happened at the distance of twelve years before the date of this usurpation. Moreover, as their first information was no other than common fame, the public clamour occasioned by the feparation might inspire such as was strangers to the family-affairs, with a miftaken notion of the child's having been born about or after the time of that event. The hurry and buffle occafioned by the arrival of the lord lieutenant about this period, the reports industriously propagated of the claimant's death, the obscurity and concealment in which the boy was obliged to live, in order to elude the wicked attempts of his uncle. might also contribute to his peaceable enjoyment of an empty title: and laftly, lord chancellor W-m, whose immediate province it was to iffue writs for parliament, was an utter stranger in Ireland, unacquainted with the descents of families, and confequently did not examine farther than the certificate enrolled in the books of the king at arms. Over and above these circumstances, which naturally account for the fuccess of the imposture, it may be observed that the hapless youth had not one relation alive on the fide of his father, whose interest it was not to forward or connive at his destruction; that his grandfather the Duke of B was dead; and that his mother was then in England, in a for-

the world, and even from her own relations, by her woman Mary H——, who had a particular interest to secret her, and altogether dependant upon a miserable and precarious allowance from the Dutchess of B——, to whose caprice she was moreover a most wretched slave.

Notwithstanding these concurring circumstances in favour of the usurper, he did not think himself secure while the orphan had any chance of sinding a friend who would undertake his cause; and therefore laid a plan for his being kidnapped, and sent to America as a slave. His coadjutor in this inhumane scheme, was a person who carried on the trade of transporting servants to our plantations, and was deeply interested on this occasion, having for a mere trisle, purchased of the late Lord A—m the reversion of a considerable part of the A—a estate; which shameful bargain was consirmed by the brother, but could never take place unless the boy could be effectually removed.

Every thing being settled with this auxiliary, several russians were employed in search of the unhappy victim; and the first attempt that was made upon him, in which his uncle personally assisted, happening near one of the great markets of the city of Dublin, an honest butcher, with the assistance of his neighbours, rescued him by sorce from their cruel hands. This, however, was but a short respite; for (though, warned by

this adventure, the boy feldom crept out of his lurking places, without the most cautious circumspection) he was in March 1727, discovered by the diligence of his persecutors, and forcibly dragged on board of a ship bound for Newcastle on Delaware river in America, where he was fold as a flave, and kept to hard labour, much above his age or strength, for the space of thirteen years, during which he was transferred from one person to another.

While he remained in this fervile fituation, he eften mentioned to those in whom he thought fuch confidence might be placed, the circumstances of his birth and title, together with the manner of his being exiled from his native country; although, in this particular, he neglected a caution which he had received in his passage, importting, that such discovery would cost him his life. Meanwhile the uturper quietly enjoyed his right; and to those who questioned him about his brother's fon, constantly replied, that the boy had been dead for feveral years. And Arthur earl of A-a dying in April 1737, he, upon pretence of being next heir, fucceeded to the honours and estate of that nobleman.

The terms of the nephew's bondage, which had been lengthened out beyond the usual time, on account of his repeated attempts to escape, being expired in the year 1739, he hired himself as a common failor in a trading vessel bound to Jamaica; and there, being entered on board of one

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of his majesty's ships under the command of Admiral Vernon, openly declared his parentage and pretentions. This extraordinary claim, which made a great noise in the fleet, reaching the ears of one lieutenant S-n, nearly related to the usurper's Irish wife, he believed the young gentleman to be an impostor: and thinking it was incumbent on him to discover the cheat, he went on board of the ship to which the claimant belonged, and having heard the account which he gave of himfelf, was, notwithstanding his prepossessions, convinced of the truth of what he alledged. On his return to his own ship, he chanced to mention this extraordinary affair upon the quarter-deck, in the hearing of Mr B-n, one of the midshipmen, who had formerly been at school with Mr A-y. This young gentleman not only told the lieutenant, that he had been school-fellow with lord A-m's fon, but also declared that he should know him again, if not greatly altered, as he still retained a perfect idea of his countenance.

Upon this intimation, the lieutenant proposed that the experiment should be tried; and went with the midshipman on board the ship that the claimant was in for that purpose. After all the sailors had been assembled upon deck, Mr B—n, casting his eyes around, immediately distinguished Mr A—y in the croud, and laying his hand on his shoulder, "This is the man," said he; affirming at the same time, that while he continu-

ed at school with him, the claimant was reputed and respected as lord A—m's son and heir, and maintained in all respects suitable to the dignity of his rank. Nay, he was, in like manner, recognized by several other persons in the sleet, who had known him in his infancy.

These things being reported to the Admiral, he generously ordered him to be supplied with necessaries, and treated like a gentleman; and, in his next dispatches, transmitted an account of the affair to the duke of Newcastle, among the other transactions of the fleet.

In September, or October 1741, Mr A—y arrived at London; and the first person to whom he applied for advice and assistance, was a man of the law, nearly related to the samilies of A—a and A—m, and well acquainted with the particular affairs of each; who, far from treating him as a bastard and impostor, received him with civility and seeming kindness, asked him to eat, presented him with a piece of money, and excusing himself from meddling in the affair, advised him to go to Ireland, as the most proper place for commencing a suit for the recovery of his right.

Before the young gentleman had an opportunity, or indeed any inclination to comply with this advice, he was accidentally met in the street by that same H—n, who, as I have mentioned, gave Mr M—r the first insight into the affair: this man immediately knew the claimant, having

been formerly an agent for his father, and afterwards a creature of his uncle's, with whom he was, not without reason, suspected to be concerned in kidnapping and transporting his nephew. Be that as it will, his connections with the usurpper were now broke off by a quarrel, in consequence of which, he had thrown up his agency; and he invited the hapless stranger to his house, with a view of making all possible advantage of such a guest.

There he had not long remained when his treacherous landlord, tampering with his inexperience, effected a marriage between him and the daughter of one of his own friends who lodged in his house at the same time: but afterwards, seeing no person of consequence willing to espouse his cause, he looked upon him as an incumbrance, and wanted to rid his hands of him accordingly. He remembered that Mr M-r had expressed himself with all the humanity of apprehension in favour of the unfortunate young nobleman before his arrival in England; and being well acquainted with the generofity of his disposition, he no fooner understood that he was returned from France, than he waited upon him with an account of Mr A-y's being fafely arrived. Mr M-r was fincerely rejoiced to find, that a person who had been so cruelly injured, and undergone so long and continued a scene of distress, was restored to a country where he was fure of obtaining juffice, and where every good man (as he imagined) would

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make the cause his own: and being informed that the youth was in want of necessaries, he gave twenty guineas to H—n for his use, and promised to do him all the service in his power; but had no intention to take upon himself the whole weight of such an important affair, or indeed to appear in the cause, until he should be fully and thoroughly satisfied that the claimant's pretensions were well sounded.

In the mean time, H—n infinuating that the young gentleman was not fafe in his present lodging from the machinations of his enemies, M—r accommodated him with an apartment in his own house; where he was at great pains to remedy the defect in his education, by rendering him fit to appear as a gentleman in the world. Having received from him all the intelligence he could give relating to his own affair, he laid his case before counsel, and dispatched a person to Ireland to make further inquiries upon the same subject; who, on his first arrival in that kingdom, found the claimant's birth was as publicly known as any circumstance of that kind could possibly be at so great a distance of time.

The usurper and his friends gave all the interruption in their power to any researches concerning that affair; and had recourse to every art and expedient that could be invented, to prevent its being brought to a legal discussion; privilege, bills in chancery, orders of court surreptitiously and illegally obtained, and every other

invention was made use of to bar and prevent a fair and honest trial by a jury. The usurper himself, and his agents, at the same time that they formed divers conspiracies against his life, in vain endeavoured to detach Mr M——r from the orphan's cause by innumerable artifices, insinuating, cajoling, and misrepresenting with surprising dexterity and perseverance.

His protector, far from being fatisfied with their reasons, was not only deaf to their remonstrances, but, believing him in danger from their repeated efforts, had him privately conveyed into the country; where an unhappy accident (which he hath ever since sincerely regretted) furnished his adversary with a colourable pretext to cut him off in the beginning of his career.

A man happening to lose his life by the accidental discharge of a piece that chanced to be in the young gentleman's hands, the account of this missfortune no sooner reached the ears of his uncle, than he expressed the most immoderate joy at having sound so good a handle for destroying him under the colour of law. He immediately constituted himself prosecutor, set his emissaries at work to secure a coroner's inquest suited to his cruel purposes; set out for the place in person to take care that the prisoner should not escape; insulted him in jail in the most inhuman manner; employed a whole army of attornies and agents to spirit up and carry on a most vi-

rulent prosecution; practifed all the unfair methods that could be invented, in order that the unhappy gentleman should be transported to Newgate, from the healthy prison to which he was at first committed; endeavoured to inveigle him into destructive confessions; and not to mention other more infamous arts employed in the affair of evidence, attempted to furprise him upon his trial in the absence of his witnesses and counsel, contrary to a previous agreement with the profecutor's own attorney: nay, he even appeared in person upon the bench at the trial, in order to intimidate the evidence, and brow-beat the unfortunate prisoner at the bar; and expended above a thousand pounds in that prosecution. In spite of all his wicked efforts, however, which were defeated by the spirit and indefatigable industry of Mr M \_\_\_\_r, the young gentleman was honourably acquitted, to the evident fatisfaction of all the impartial; the misfortune that gave a handle for that unnatural profecution appearing to demonstration to have been a mere accident.

In a few months his protector, who had now openly espoused his cause, (taking with him two gentlemen to witness his transactions) conducted him to his native country, with a view to be better informed of the strength of his pretensions, than he could be by the intelligencies he had hitherto received, or by the claimant's own dark and almost obliterated remembrance of the sacts which were essential to be known. Upon their

arrival in Dublin, application was made to those persons whom Mr A-y had named as his schoolmasters and companions, together with the fervants and neighbours of his father. These though examined separately, without having the least previous intimation of what the claimant had reported, agreed in their accounts with him, as well as with one another, and mentioned many other people as acquainted with the same facts. to whom Mr M-r had recourse, and still met with the fame unvaried information. By these means he made fuch progress in his inquiries,. that in less than two months no fewer than one hundred persons from different quarters of the kingdom, either personally, or by letters, communicated their knowledge of the claimant, in declarations confonant with one another, as well as with the accounts he gave of himself. Several fervants who had lived with his father, and been deceived with the story of his death, fo industriously propagated by his uncle, no sooner heard of his being in Dublin, than they came from different parts of the country to fee him; and though great pains were taken to deceive them, they, nevertheless, knew him at first fight: fome of them fell upon their knees to thank heaven-for his preservation, embraced his legs, and shed tears of joy for his return.

Although the conduct of his adversary, particularly in the above-mentioned profecution, together with the evidence that already appeared, were sufficient to convince all mankind of the truth of the claimant's pretensions, Mr M—r, in order to be further satisfied, resolved to see how he would be received upon the spot where he was born; justly concluding, that if he was really an impostor, the bastard of a kitchen-wench produced in a country entirely possessed by his enemy and his allies, he must be looked upon in that place with the utmost detestation and contempt.

This his intention was no fooner known to the adverse party, than their agents and friends, from all quarters, repaired to that place with all poffible dispatch, and used all their influence with the people, in remonstrances, threats, and all the other arts they could devife, not only to discountenance the claimant upon his arrival, but even to spirit up a mob to insult him. Notwithstanding these precautions, and the servile awe and subjection in which tenants are kept by their landlords in that part of the country, as foon as it was known that Mr A-y approached the town, the inhabitants crowded out in great multitudes to receive and welcome him, and accompanied him into town with acclamations and other expressions of joy, insomuch that the agents of his adversary durst not shew their faces. The fovereign of the corporation, who was a particular creature and favourite of the usurper, and whose all depended upon the issue of the cause, was so conscious of the stranger's right, and so

much awed by the behaviour of the people, who knew that consciousness, that he did not think it safe, even to preserve the appearance of neutrality upon this occasion, but actually held the stirrup while Mr A—y dismounted from his horse.

This sense of conviction in the people manifested itself still more powerfully, when he returned to the same place in the year 1744, about which time lord A-a being informed of his refolution, determined again to be before hand with him, and fet out in person with his agents and friends, some of whom were detached before him, to prepare for his reception, and induced the peodle to meet him in a body, and accompany him to town, with such expressions of welcome as they had before bestowed on his nephew; but in spite of all their art and interest, he was suffered to pass through the street in a mournful silence; and though feveral barrels of beer were produced to court the favour of the populace, they had no other effect than that of drawing their ridicule upon the donor; whereas, when Mr A-y, two days afterwards appeared, all the inhabitants, with garlands, streamers, music, and other ensigns of joy, crouded out to meet him, and ushered him into town with such demonstrations of pleasure and good-will, that the noble peer found it convenient to hide himself from the resentment of his own tenants, the effects of which he must have feverely felt, had not he been fereened by the

timely remonstrances of Mr M-r, and the other gentleman who accompanied his competitor.

Nor did his apprehension vanish with the transaction of this day: the town was again in uproar on the Sunday following, when it was known that Mr A—y intended to come thither, from Dunmain, to church: they went out to meet him as before, and conducted him to the church-door with acclamations, which terrified his uncle to such a degree, that he sled with precipitation in a boat, and soon after entirely quitted the place.

It would be almost an endless task to enumerate the particular steps that were taken by one side to promote, and by the other to delay the trial: the young gentleman's adversaries finding that they could not, by all the fubterfuges and arts they had used, evade it, repeated attempts were made to affaffinate him and his protector, and every obstruction thrown in the way of his cause which craft could invent, villainy execute, and undue influence confirm. But all these difficulties were furmounted by the vigilance, constancy, courage and fagacity of M-r; and, at last, the affair was brought to a very folemn trial at bar, which being continued, by feveral adjournments, from the eleventh to the 25th day of November, a verdict was found for the claimant, by a jury of gentlemen, which, in point of reputation and property, cannot be easily paralleled in the annals of that or any other country; a jury that could by no means be suspected of prepossessions in favour

of Mr An—y, (to whose person they were absolute strangers) especially if we consider that a gentleman in their neighbourhood, who was nephew to the foreman, and nearly related to some of the rest of their number, forseited a considerable estate by their decision.

This verdict (faid the parson) gave the highest fatisfaction to all impartial persons that were within reach of being truly informed of their proceedings, and of the different genius and conduct of the parties engaged in the contest; but more especially to such as were in court (as I was) at the trial, and had an opportunity of observing the characters and behaviour of the persons who appeared there to give evidence. To fuch it was very apparent, that all the witnesses produced there on the part of the uncle, were either his tenants, dependents, pot-companions, or perfons fome way or other interested in the issue of the fuit, and remarkable for a low kind of cunning: that many of them were persons of profligate lives, who deferved no credit: that (independent of the levity of their characters) those of them who went under the denomination of colonels, (colonel L-fts alone excepted, who had nothing to fay, and was only brought there in order to give credit to that party) made fo ridiculous a figure, and gave so absurd, contradictory and inconfisent an evidence, as no court or jury could give the least degree of credit to. On the other hand, it was observed, that the nephew

and Mr M-r his chief manager, (being absolute strangers in that country, and unacquainted with the characters of the persons they had to deal with) were obliged to lay before the court and jury fuch evidence as came to their hand, fome of whom plainly appeared to have been put upon them by their adversaries, with a design to hurt .- It was also manifest, that the witnesses produced for Mr A-y were fuch as could have no manner of connection with him, nor any dependence whatfoever upon him, to influence their evidence; for the far greatest part of them had never feen him from his infancy, till the trial began; and many of them (the' poor and undignified with the title of colonels) were people of unblemished character, of great simplicity, and such as no man in his fenses would pitch upon to support a bad cause. It is plain that the jury (whose well-known honour, impartiality and penetration must be revered by all who are acquainted with them) were not under the least difficulty about their verdict; for they were not inclosed above half an hour when they returned with it. - Thefe gentlemen could not help observing the great inequality of the parties engaged, the great advantages that the uncle had in every other respect (except the truth and justice of his case) over the nephew, by means of his vast possessions, and of his power and influence all round the place of his birth; nor could the contrast between the different geniuses of the two parties escape their ob-

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fervation .- They could not but fee and conclude. that a person who had confessedly transported and fold his orphan-nephew into flavery, who, on his return, had carried on fo unwarrantable and cruel a profecution to take away his life, under colour of law, and who had also given such glaring proofs of his skill and dexterity in the management of witnesses for that cruel purpose, was in like manner capable of exerting the same happy talent on this occasion when his all was at stake: more especially, as he had so many others who were equally interested with himself, and whose abilities, in that respect, fell nothing short of his own, to second him in it. The gentlemen of the jury had also a near view of the manner in which the witnesses delivered their testimonies, and had from thence an opportunity of observing many circumstances and distinguishing characteristics of truth and falsehood, from which a great deal could be gathered, that could not be adequately conveyed by any printed account how exact foever; consequently, they must have been much better judges of the evidence on which they founded their verdict, than any person who had not the same opportunity can possibly be.

These, Mr Pickle, were my reflections on what I had occasion to observe concerning that famous trial; and on my return to England two years after, I could not help pitying the self-sufficiency of some people, who, at this distance, pretended to pass their judgment on that verdict with as

great positiveness, as if they had been in the secrets of the cause, or upon the jury who tried it; and that from no better authority, than the declamations of Lord An—a's emissaries, and some falsified printed accounts artfully cooked up on purpose to mislead and deceive.

But to return from this digression: lord A-a, the defendant in that cause, was so conscious of the strength and merits of his injured nephew's case, and that a verdict would go against him, that he ordered a writ of error to be made out before the trial was ended; and the verdict was no fooner given, than he immediately lodged it, though he well knew he had no manner of error to affign. This expedient was practifed merely for vexation and delay, in order to keep Mr A-y from the possession of the small estate he had recovered by the verdict; that, his slender funds being exhausted, he might be deprived of other means to profecute his right; and, by the most oppressive contrivances and scandalous chicanery, it has been kept up to this day, without his being able to affign the least shadow of any error.

Lord A—a was not the only antagonist that Mr A—y had to deal with; all the different branches of the A—a family, who had been worrying one another at law ever since the death of the late earl of A—a, about the partition of his great estate, were now firmly united in an association against this unfortunate gentleman; mutual deeds were executed among them, by

which many great lordships and estates were given up by the uncle to persons who had no right to possess them, in order to engage them to side with him against his nephew, in with-holding the

unjust possession of the remainder.

These confederates having held several confultations against their common enemy, and finding that his cause gathered daily strength since the trial, by the accession of many witnesses of figure and reputation, who had not been heard of before; and that the only chance they had to prevent the speedy establishment of his right, and their own destruction, was by stripping Mr M-r of the little money that yet remained, and stopping all further resources whereby he might be enabled to proceed; they, therefore, came to a determined resolution to carry that hopeful scheme into execution; and, in pursuance thereof, they have left no expedient or ftratagem, how extraordinary or scandalous soever, unpractifed to diftrefs Mr An-y and that gentleman. For that end, all the oppreflive arts and dilatory expensive contrivances that the fertile invention of the lowest pettifoggers of the law could possibly devife, have with great dexterity been played off against them in fruitless quibbling, and malicious fuits, entirely foreign to the merits of the caufe. Not to mention numberless other acts of opprestion, the most extraordinary and unprecedented proceedings, by means whereof this fham writ of error hath been kept on foot ever fince November 1743, is to me (said the doctor) a most slagrant instance, not only of the prevalency of power and money, (when employed as in the present case, against an unfortunate, helpless man, disabled, as he is, of the means of ascertaining his right) but of the badness of a cause, that hath recourse to so many iniquitous expedients to sup-

port it. In a word, the whole conduct of lord A-a and his party from the beginning to this time, hath been such as sufficiently manifests, that it could proceed from no other motives than a consciousness of Mr A-y's right, and of their own illegal usurpations, and from a terror of trusting the merits of their cale to a fair discussion by the laws of their country; and that the intention and main drift of all their proceedings plainly tends to stifle and smother the merits of the case from the knowledge of the world, by oppressive arts and ingenious delays, rather than trust it to the candid determination of an honest jury. What elfe could be the motives of kid-napping the claimant, and transporting him when an infant? of the various attempts made upon his life fince his return? of the attempts to diveft him of all affistance to ascertain his right, by endeavouring sofolicitously to prevail on Mr M-r to abandon him in the beginning? of retaining an army of counsel, before any suit had been commenced? of the many finister attempts to prevent the trial at bar? of the various arts made use of to terri-

fy any one from appearing as witness for the claimant, and to seduce those who had appeared? of the thameless unprecedented low tricks now practifed to keep him out of the possession of that estate for which he had obtained the verdict, thereby to disable him from bringing his cause to a further hearing; and of the attempts made to buy up Mr M--'s debts, and to spirit up suits against him? Is it not obvious, from all these circumstances, as well as from the obstruction they have given to the attorney-general's proceeding to make a report to his Majesty, on the claimant's petition to the king for the peerage, which was referred by his Majesty to that gentleman, fo far back as 1743, that all their efforts are bent to that one point of stifling, rather than suffering the merits of this cause to come to a fair and candid hearing; and that the fole consideration at present between them and this unfortunate man is not, whether he is right or wrong, but whether he shall or shall not find money to bring this cause to a final determination.

Lord A—a and his confederates not thinking themselves safe with all these expedients, while there was a possibility of their antagonist's obtaining any assistance from such as humanity, compassion, generosity, or a love of justice, might induce to lay open their purses to his assistance, in ascertaining his fight, have, by themselves and their numerous emissaries, employed all the arts of calumny, slander, and detraction against him,

by traducing his cause, vilifying his person, and most basely and cruelly tearing his character to pieces, by a thousand misrepresentations, purposely invented and industriously propagated in all places of refort, which is a kind of cowardly affaffination that there is no guarding against: vet, in spite of all these machinations, and the shameful indifference of mankind, who stand aloof unconcerned, and fee this unhappy gentleman most inhumanly oppressed by the weight of lawless power and faction, M-r, far from suffering himself to be dejected by the multiplying difficulties that crowd upon him, still exerts himfelf with amazing fortitude and affiduity, and will (I doubt not) bring the affair he began and carried on with fo much spirit, while his finances lasted, to an happy conclusion.

It would exceed the bounds of my intention, and perhaps trespass too much upon your time; were I to enumerate the low artifices and shameful quibbles, by which the usurper has found means to procrassinate the decision of the contest between him and his hapless nephew, or to give a detail of the damage and perplexity, which Mr M— has sustained and been involved in, by the treachery and ingratitude of some who listed themselves under him in the prosecution of this affair, and by the villainy of others, who, undervarious pretences of material discoveries they had to make, &c. had fastened themselves upon him, and continued to do all the mischief in their power, until the cloven foot was detected.

One instance, however, is so flagrantly flagitious, that I cannot resist the inclination I feel to relate it, as an example of the most infernal perfidy that perhaps ever entered the human heart. I have already mentioned the part which H-n acted in the beginning of M---'s connexion with the unfortunate stranger, and hinted that the said H-n lay under many obligations to that gentleman, before Mr A --- y's arrival in England. He had been chief agent to lord A-y, and as it afterwards appeared, received feveral payments of a fecret pension which that lord enjoyed, for which he either could not, or would not account. His lordship, therefore, in order to compel himto it, took out writs against him, and his house was continually furrounded with catchpoles for the space of two whole years.

Mr M believing, from H n's own account of the matter, that the poor man was greatly injured, and profecuted on account of his attachment to the unhappy young gentleman, did him all the good offices in his power, and became fecurity for him on feveral occasions: nay, fuch was his opinion of his integrity, that after Mr. A-y was cleared of the profecution carried on against him by his uncle, his person was trusted to the care of this hypocrite, who defired that the young gentleman might lodge at his house for the convenience of air, M-'s own occasions calling

him often into the country.

Having thus, by his confummate diffimulation,

acquired fuch a valuable charge, he wrote a letter to one of lord A-y's attornies, offering to betray Mr An-ey, provided his lordship would fettle his account, and give him a discharge for eight hundred pounds of the pension which he had received and not accounted for. Mr. M --- informed of this treacherous proposal immediately removed his lodger from his house into his own, without affiguing his reasons for so doing, until he was obliged to declare it, in order to free himself from the importunities of H-n, who earnestly solicited his return. This miscreant finding himself detected and disappoint ed in his villainous defign, was fo much enraged at his mifcarriage, that, forgetting all the benefits he had received from M-for a feries of years, he practifed all the mischief that his malice could contrive against him; and at length entered into a confederacy with one G--tr-y, and several other abandoned wretches, who, asbefore faid, under various pretences of being able to make material discoveries, and otherwise to ferve the eaufe, had found means to be employed in some extra business relating to it, though their real intention was to betray the claimant.

These confederates, in conjunction with some other auxiliaries of infamous characters, being informed that Mr M—— was on the point of fecuring a considerable sum to enable him to profecute Mr An——y's right, and to bring it to a happy conclusion, contrived a deep-laid scheme

to disappoint him in it, and at once to ruin the cause. And previous measures being taken for that wicked purpose, they imposed upon the young gentleman's inexperience and credulity, by infinuations equally false, plausible, and malicious; to which they at length gained his belief, by the mention of some circumstances that gave what they alledged an air of probability, and even of truth. They fwore that Mr M-had taken out an action against him for a very large fum of money; that they had actually feen the writ: that the intention of it was to throw himinto prison for life, and ruin his cause, in consequence of an agreement made by him with lord A-ey, and his other enemies, to retrieve the money that he had laid out in the cause.

This plausible tale was enforced with such an air of truth, candour, and earnest concern for his safety, and was strengthened by so many imprecations, and corroborating circumstances of their invention, as would have staggered one of much greater experience and knowledge of mankind than. Mr A—ey, could be supposed to have at that time. The notion of perpetual imprisonment, and the certain ruin they made him believe his cause was threatened with, worked upon his imagination to such a degree, that he suffered himself to be led like a lamb to the slaughter, by this artful band of villains, who secreted him at the lodgings of one Pr—nt—ce, an intimate of G—y's, for several days, under colour of his

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being hunted by bailiffs employed by Mr M—, where he was not only obliged by them to change his name, but even his wife was not suffered to have access to him.

Their defign was to have fold him, or drawn him into a ruinous compromife with his adverfaries, for a valuable confideration to themselves. But as no ties are binding among such a knot of villains, the rest of the conspirators were jockied by G-st-ey; who, in order to monopolize the advantage to himself, hurried his prize into the country, and secreted him even from his confederates, in a place of concealment one hundred miles from London, under the same ridiculous pretence of M——'s having taken out a writ against him, and of bailists being in pursuit of him every where round London.

He was no sooner there than G—st—ey, as a previous step to the other villainy he intended, tricked him out of a bond for six thousand pounds, under colour of his having a person ready to advance the like sum upon it, as an immediate sund for carrying on his cause; assuring him, at the same time, that he had a set of gentlemen ready, who were willing to advance twenty-sive thousand pounds more for the same purpose, and to allow him sive hundred pounds a-year for his maintenance, 'till his cause should be made an end of, provided that Mr M—— should have no surther concern with him or his cause.

Mr A-ey, having, by this time, received

some intimations of the deceit that had been put upon him, made answer, that he should look upon himself as a very ungrateful monster, indeed, if he deferted a person who had saved his life, and fo generously ventured his own, together with his fortune, in his cause, until he should first be certain of the truth of what was alledged of him. and absolutely rejected the proposal. G-ft-ev. who had no other view in making it than to cover the fecret villainy he meditated against him, and to facilitate the execution thereof, eafily receded from it, when he found Mr A-ey so averse to it, and undertoook nevertheless to raise the money; adding, that he might, if he pleafed, return to Mr M- whenever it was secured. The whole drift of this pretended undertaking to raife the twenty-five thousand pounds, was only to lay a foundation for a dextrous contrivance to draw Mr A-ey unwarily into the execution of a deed, relinquishing all his right and title, under notion of its being a deed to fecure the repayment of that fum.

G—st—ey having, as he imagined, so far paved the way for the execution of such a deed, enters into an agreement with an agent, employed for that purpose by Mr A—ey's adversaries, purporting, that in consideration of the payment of a bond for six thousand pound, which he, G—st-ey, had, as he pretended, laid out in Mr A—ey's cause, and of an annuity of seven hundred pounds a year, he was to procure for them from Mr

A—ey a deed ready executed, relinquishing all right and title to the An—ey estate and honours. Every thing being prepared for the execution of this infernal scheme, unknown to Mr A—ey, G—st—ey, then thought proper to send for him to town from his retirement, in order, as he pretended, to execute a security of

twenty-five thousand pounds.

This intended victim to that villain's avarice no fooner arrived in town, full of hopes of money to carry on his cause, and of agreeably surprifing his friend and protector Mr M-with fo seasonable and unexpected a reinforcement. than an unforeseen difficulty arose, concerning the payment of G-It-ey's fix thousand pound That money was to have been raifed out of the estate of a lunatic, which could not be done without the leave of the Court of Chancery, to whom an account must have been given of the intended application of it. While preparations were making to rectify this omission, G-st-ey immediately carried Mr A-ey again into the country, lest he should happen to be undeceived by some means or other.

In the mean time, this wicked machination was providentially discovered by Mr M—r, before it could be carried into execution, by means of the jealousies that arose among the conspirators themselves; and was, at the same time, confirmed to him by a person whom the very agent for the An—ey party had intrusted with the secret.

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M—r no fooner detected it than he communicated his discovery to one of Mr A—ey's counsel, a man of great worth; and immediately thereupon took proper measures to deseat it. He then found means to lay open to Mr A----ey himself, the treacherous scheme that was laid for his destruction; he was highly sensible of it: and could never afterwards resect on the snare that he had so unwarily been drawn into, and had so narrowly escaped, without a mixture of horror, shame, and gratitude to his deliverer.

The consummate assurance of the monsters who were engaged in this plot, after they had been detected, and upbraided with their treachery, is scarce to be paralleled; for they not only owned the fact of spiriting Mr A—ey away, in the manner above mentioned, but justified their doing it as tending to his service. They also maintained, that they had actually secured the twenty-sive thousand pounds for him, though they never could name any one person who was to have advanced the money. No man was more active in this scheme than H—n; nor any man more solicitous to keep Mr A—ey up in the false impressions he had received, or in projecting methods to ruin his protector, than he.

Among many other expedients for that purpose, a most malicious attempt was made to lodge an information against him, for treasonable practices, with the secretary of state, notwithstanding the repeated proofs he had given of his loyalty; and

which this traitor dictated, was copied by another person, and actually sent to the Earl of C——d importing, that the person who copied the letter had an affair of consequence to communicate to his lordship, if he would appoint a time for receiving the information. But that person, upon full conviction of the villainy of the scheme, absolutely refused to proceed surther in it, so that his malice once more proved abortive: and before he had time to execute any other contrivance of the same nature, he was imprisoned in this very jail for debt.

Here, finding his creditors inexorable, and himself destitute of all other resource, he made application to the very man whom he had injured in fuch an outrageous manner, fet forth his deplorable case in the most pathetic terms, and intreated him, with the most abject humility, to use his influence in his behalf. The diffress of this varlet immediately disarmed M-r of his resentment, and even excited his compassion. Without fending any answer to his remonstrances, he interceded for him with his creditors; and the person to whom he was chiefly indebted. refusing to release him without security, this unwearied benefactor joined with the prisoner in a bond for above two hundred and forty pounds, for which he obtained his release.

He was no sooner discharged, however, than he entered into fresh combinations with G-y

and others, in order to thwart his deliverer in his schemes of raising money, and otherwise to diffress and deprive him of liberty; for which purpose no art or industry (perjury not excepted) hath been spared. And, what is still more extraordinary, this perfidious monfler having found money to take up the bond, in confequence of which, he regained his freedom, bath procured a writ against M -r upon that very obligation; and taken affignments to fome other debts of that gentleman, with the same christian intention. But, hitherto, he hath, by furprising fagacity and unshaken resolution, baffled all their infernal contrivances, and retorted some of their machinations on their own heads. At this time when he is supposed by some, and represented by others, as under the circumstances of oblivion and despondence, he proceeds in his defign with the utmost calmness and intrepidity, meditating schemes and ripening measures that will one day confound his enemies, and attract the notice and admiration of mankind."

Peregrine having thanked the priest for his obliging information, expressed his surprise at the scandalous inattention of the world to an affair of such importance: observing, that by such inhuman neglect, this unfortunate young gentleman Mr A——ey, was absolutely deprived of all the benefit of society; the sole end of which is, to protect the rights, redress the grievances, and promote the happiness of individuals. As for the

character of M——r, he said it was so romantically singular in all its circumstances, that, though other motives were wanting, curiosity alone would induce him to seek his acquaintance: but he did not at all wonder at the ungrateful returns which had been made to his generosity by H——n, and many others, whom he had served in a manner that sew, besides himself, would have done; for he had been long convinced of the truth conveyed in these lines of a celebrated Italian author:

Li beneficii, che per la loro grandezza, non puonno esser guiderdonati, con la scelerata moneta: dell'ingratitudine, sono pagati.

"The story which you have related of that young gentleman (said he) bears a very strong resemblance to the sate of a Spanish nobleman, as it was communicated to me by one of his own intimate friends at Paris. The countess d'Alvarez died immediately after the birth of a son, and the husband surviving her but three years, the child was lest sole heir to his honours and estate, under the guardianship of his uncle, who had a small fortune and a great many children. This inhuman relation, coveting the wealth of his infant ward, formed a design against the use of the helpless orphan, and trusted the execution of it to his valet de chambre, who was tempted to undertake the murder by the promise of a considera-

able reward. He accordingly stabbed the boy with a knife, in three different places on the right-fide of his neck: but, as he was not used to such barbarous attempts, his hand failed in the performance; and he was feized with fuch remorfe, that, perceiving the wounds were not mortal, he carried the hapless victim to the house of a surgeon. by whose care they were healed; and, in the mean time, that he might not forfeit his recompence, found means to persuade his employer that his orders were performed. A bundle being made up for the purpose, was publicly interred as the body of the child, who was faid to have been fuddenly carried off by a convultion; and the uncle, without opposition, succeeded to his honours and The boy being cured of his hurts, was, about the age of fix, delivered, with a fmall fum of money, to a merchant just embarking for Turkey; who was given to understand that he was the ballard of a man of quality; and that for family-reasons it was necessary to conceal his birth.

While the unfortunate orphan remained in this deplorable state of bondage, all the children of the usurper died one after another; and he himself being taken dangerously is, attributed all his afflictions to the just judgment of God, and communicated his anxiety on that subject to the valet de chambre who had been employed in the murder of his nephew. That domestic, in order to quiet his master's conscience, and calm the

perturbation of his spirits, confessed what he had done, and gave him hopes of still sinding the boy by dint of industry and expence. The unhappy child being the only hope of the samily of Alvarez, the uncle immediately ordered a minute inquiry to be set on foot; in consequence of which he was informed, that the orphan had been sold to a Turk, who had afterwards transferred him to an English merchant by whom he was conveyed to London.

An express was immediately dispatched to this capital, where he understood that the unhappy exile had, in consideration of his faithful services, been bound apprentice to a French barber-surgeon; and after he had sufficiently qualified himfelf in that profession, been received into the family of the count de Gallas, at that time the emperor's embassador at the court of London. From the house of this nobleman he was traced into the fervice of the count d'Oberstoff, where he had married his lady's chamber-maid, and then gone to settle as a surgeon in Bohemia.

In the course of these inquiries several years elapsed; his uncle, who was very much attached to the house of Austria, lived at Barcelona, when the father of this empress queen resided in that city, and lent him a very considerable sum of money in the most pressing emergency of his assairs; and when that prince was on the point of returning to Germany, the old count sinding his end approaching, sent his father confessor to

his majesty, with a circumstantial account of the barbarity he had practised against his nephew, for which he implored forgiveness, and begged he would give orders that the orphan, when found, should inherit the dignities and fortune

which he had unjustly usurped.

His majesty assured the old man, that he might make himself easy on that score, and ordered the confessor to follow him to Vienna, immediately after the count's death, in order to assist his endeavours in finding out the injured heir. The priest did not fail to yield obedience to this command: he informed himself of certain natural marks on the young count's body, which were known to the nurse and women who attended him in his infancy; and with a gentleman whom the emperor ordered to accompany him, set out for Bohemia, where he soon found the object of his inquiry, in the capacity of major domo to a nobleman of that country, he having quitted his profession of surgery for that office.

He was not a little surprised, when he found himself circumstantially catechised about the particulars of his life, by persons commissioned for that purpose by the emperor. He told them, that he was absolutely ignorant of his own birth, though he had been informed, during his residence in Turkey, that he was the bastard of a Spanish grandee, and gave them a minute detail of the pilgrimage he had undergone. This information agreeing with the intelligence which the priests

had already received, and being corroborated by the marks upon his body, and the very fcars of the wounds which had been inflicted upon him in his infancy, the confessor, without further hesitation, saluted him by the name of count d'Alvarez, grandee of Spain, and explained the whole

mystery of his fortune.

If he was agreeably amazed at this explanation, the case was otherwise with his wife, who thought herself in great danger of being abandoned by an husband of fuch high rank; but he immediately dispelled her apprehension, by asfuring her, that as she had shared in his adversity, fhe should also partake of his good fortune. He fet out immediately for Vienna, to make his acknowledgments to the emperor, who favoured him with a very gracious reception, promifed to use his influence, so that he might enjoy the honours and estate of his family; and, in the mean time, acknowledged himself his debtor for four hundred thousand florins, which he had borrowed from his uncle. He threw himself at the feet of his august protector, expressed the most grateful sense of his goodness, and begged he might be permitted to fettle in some of his imperial majesty's dominions.

This request was immediately granted; he was allowed to purchase land in any part of the hereditary dominions of the house of Austria, to the amount of the fum I have mentioned; and made

choice of the country of Ratibor in Silesia, where in all probability, he still resides."

Peregrine had scarce finished this narrative, when he perceived Mr M——r slip something into the hand of the young man with whom he had been conversing at the other end of the room, and rise up from the table in order to take his leave. He at once understood the meaning of this conveyance, and longed for an opportunity to be acquainted with such a rare instance of primitive benevolence; but the consciousness of his present situation hindered him from making any advance, that might be construed into forwardness or presumption.

#### C H A P. XCVIII.

He is surprised with the appearance of Hatchway and Pipes, who take up their habitation in his neighbourhood, contrary to his inclination and express desire.

BEING now regularly initiated in the mysteries of the Fleet, and reconciled in some measure to the customs of the place, he began to bear the edge of reflection without wincing; and thinking it would be highly imprudent in him to defer any longer the purposes by which only he could enjoy any ease and satisfaction in his confinement, he resolved to resume his task of trans-

lating, and every week compose an occasional paper, by way of revenge upon the minister, against whom he had denounced eternal war. With this view he locked himself up in his chamber, and went to work with great eagerness and application; when he was interrupted by a ticket-porter, who, putting a letter in his hand, vanished in a moment, before he had time to peruse the contents.

Our hero, opening the billet, was not a little furprifed to find a bank-note for fifty pounds, inclosed in a blank sheet of paper; and having exercised his memory and penetration on the subject of this unexpected windfall, had just concluded, that it could come from no other than the lady who had so kindly visited him a few days before, when his ears were suddenly invaded by the well-known sound of that whistle which always hung about the neck of Pipes, as a memorial of his former occupation. This tune being performed, he heard the noise of a wooden leg ascending the stair: upon which he opened his door, and beheld his friend Hatchway with his old ship-mate at his back.

After a cordial shake of the hand, with the usual salutation of "What chear, cousin Pickle?" honest Jack seated himself without ceremony; and casting his eyes around the apartment, "Split my topstay-sail! (said he, with an arch sneer) you have got into a snug birth, cousin. Here you may sit all weathers, without being turned

out to take your watch, and no fear of the ship's dragging her anchor. You ha'n't much room to spare, 'tis true: an' I had known as how you stowed so close, Tom should have slung my own hammock for you, and then you mought have knocked down this great lubberly hurricane house. But, may hap, you turn in double, and so you don't chuse to trust yourself and your doxy to a clue and canvas."

Pickle bore his jokes with great good humour, rallied him in his turn about the dairy-maid at the garrison, inquiring about his friends in the country, asked if he had been to visit his niece, and sinally, expressed a desire of knowing the cause of his journey to London. The lieutenant satisfied his curiosity in all these particulars; and in answer to the last question, observed, that from the information of Pipes, understanding he was land-locked, he had come from the country in order to tow him into the offing. "I know not how the wind sits (said he;) but if so be, as three thousand pounds will bring you clear of the cape, say the word, and you shan't lie wind bound another glass for want of the money."

This was an offer which few people, in our hero's fituation, would have altogether refused; especially as he had all the reason in the world to believe, that, far from being a vain, unmeaning compliment, it was the genuine tribute of friendship, which the lieutenant would have willingly, ay, and with pleasure, paid. Neverthe-

though not without expressing himself in terms of acknowledgment suitable to the occasion. He told him it would be time enough to make use of his generosity, when he should find himself destitute of all other resource. Jack employed all his rheteric, with a view of persuading him to take this opportunity to procure his own enlargement; and finding his arguments inessectual, insisted upon his accepting an immediate supply for his necessary occasions; swearing with great vehemence, that he would never return to the garrison, unless he would put him upon the footing of any other tenant, and receive his rent accordingly.

Our young gentleman as positively swore, that he never would consider him in that light; remonstrating that he had long ago fettled the house upon him for life, as a pledge of his own esteem, as well as in conformity with the commodore's defire; and befeeching him to return to his usual avocations, protesting, that if ever his fituation should subject him to the necessity of borrowing from his friends, Mr Hatchway should be the first man to whom he would apply himself for fuccour. To convince him that this was not the case at present, he produced the bank-note. which he had received in the letter, together with his own ready money; and mentioned fome other funds which he invented extempore, in order to amuse the lieutenant's concern. In the

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close of this expostulation, he defired Pipes to conduct Mr Hatchway to the coffee-house, where he might entertain himself with the news papers for half an hour; during which he would put on his cloaths, and bespeak something for dinner. that they might enjoy each other's company as long as his occasions would permit him to stay in that place.

The two failors were no fooner gone, than he took up the pen and wrote the following letter, in which he inclosed the bank-note, to his gener-

ous benefactress :

MADAM.

TOUR humanity is not more ingenious than my fuspicion. In vain you attempt to impose upon me by an act of generosity which no person upon earth, but your ladyship, is capable of committing. Though your name was not fubscribed on the paper, your sentiments were fully displayed in the contents, which I must beg leave to restore, with the same sense of gratitude, and for the same reasons I expressed, when I had the honour to converse with you upon this subject. Though I am deprived of my liberty by the villainy and ingratitude of mankind, I am not yet destitute of the other conveniences of life; and, therefore, beg to be excised for incurring an unnecessary addition to that load of obligation you have already laid upon, -Madam,

Your lady ship's most devoted, Humble fervant, PEREGRINE PICKLE.

## PEREGRINE PICKLE. 279

Having dreffed himfelf, and repaired to the place of appointment, he dispatched this epistle by the hands of Pipes, who was ordered to leave it at her ladyship's house without staying for an answer; and, in the mean time, give directions for dinner, which he and his friend Hatchway ate very chearfully in his own apartment, after he had entertained him with the fight of all the curiofities in the place. During the repast, Jack repeated his kind offers to our adventurer, who declined them with his former obstinacy, and begged he might be no more importuned on that fubject; but, if he infifted upon giving some fresh proofs of his friendship, he might have an opportunity of exhibiting it in taking Pipes under his care and protection; for nothing affected him for much, as his inability to provide for fuch a faithful adherent.

The lieutenant defired he would give himself no trouble upon that score; he being, of his own accord, perfectly well disposed to bestriend his old ship-mate, who should never want, while he had a shilling to spare. But he began to drop some hints of an intention to six his quarters in the Fleet, observing, that the air seemed to be very good in that place, and that he was tired of living in the country. What he said did not amount to a plain declaration, and therefore, Peregrine did not answer it as such, though he pereceived his drift; and took an opportunity of deferibing the inconveniences of the place, in such

a manner, as he hoped, would deter him from putting fuch an extravagant plan in execution.

This expedient, however, far from answering the end proposed, had a quite contrary effect, and furnished Hatchway with an argument against his own unwillingness to quit such a disagreeable place. In all probability, Jack would have been more explicit, with regard to the scheme he had proposed, if the conversation had not been interrupted by the arrival of Cadwallader, who never failed in the performance of his diurnal vifit. Hatchway, conjecturing that this stranger might have some private business with his friend, quitted the apartment, on pretence of taking a turn: and meeting Pipes at the door, defired his company to the Bare, by which name the open space is diffinguished; where, during a course of perambulation, these two companions held a counfel upon Pickle: in confequence of which, it was determined, fince he obstinately persisted to refuse their affistance, that they should take lodgings in his neighbourhood, with a view of being at hand to minister unto his occasions, in spite of his false delicacy, according to the emergency of his affairs.

This resolution being taken, they consulted the bar-keeper of the coffee-house about lodging, and she directed them to the warden; to whom the lieutenant, in his great wisdom, represented himself as a kinsinan to Peregrine, who, rather than '22v2 that young gentleman by himself to

the unavoidable discomforts of a prison, was inelined to keep him company, 'till fuch time as' his affairs could be put in order. This measure he the more anxiously desired to take, because the prisoner was sometimes subject to disordered imagination, upon which occasion he stood in need of extraordinary attendance; and therefore, he, (the lieutenant) intreated the warden to accommodate him with a lodging for himself and his servant, for which he was ready to make any reasonable acknowledgment. The warden, who was a fensible and humane man, could not help. applauding his refolution; and several rooms being at that time unoccupied, he put him immediately in possession of a couple, which were forthwith prepared for his reception.

This affair being fettled to his fatisfaction, he dispatched Pipes for his portmanteau; and returning to the coffee-house, found Peregrine, with whom he spent the remaining part of the evening. Our hero, taking it for granted, that he proposed to set out for the garrison next day, wrote a memorandum of some books which he had left in that habitation, and which he now desired Jack to send up to town by the waggon, directed for Mr Crabtree. He cautioned him against giving the least hint of his missortune in the neighbourhood, that it might remain as long as possible, concealed from the knowledge of his sister, (who, he knew, would afflict herself immoderately at the news,) nor reach the ears of the

rest of the family, who would exult and triumph over his distress.

Hatchway listened to his injunctions with great attention, and promifed to demean himself accordingly: then the discourse thisted to an agreeable recapitulation of the merry scenes they had acted together; and the evening being pretty far advanced, Peregrine, with feeming reluctance, told him that the gates of the Fleet would in a few minutes be flut for the night, and that there was an absolute necessity for withdrawing to his lodging. Jack replied, that he could not think of parting with him fo foon, after fuch a long feparation; and that he was determined to stay with him an hour or two longer, if he should be obliged to take up his lodging in the streets. Pickle, rather than disoblige his guest, indulged him in his defire, and resolved to give him a share of his own bed. A pair of chickens and sparagus were bespoken for supper, at which Pipes attended with an air of internal fatisfaction; and the hottle was bandled about in a jovial manner till midnight, when the lieutenant rose up to take his leave, observing, that being fatigued with riding, he was inclined to turn in. Pipes, upon this intimation, produced a lanthorn ready lighted ; and Jack, shaking his entertainer by the hand, wished him good night, and promised to visit him again betimes in the morning.

Peregrine, imagining that his behaviour proceeded from the wine, which he had plentifully drank, told him, that if he was disposed to fleep, his bed was ready prepared in the room, and ordered his attendant to undress his master; uponwhich Mr Hatchway gave him to understand, that he had no occasion to incommode his friend, having already provided a lodging for himself: and the young gentleman demanding an explanation, he frankly owned what he had done, faying, " You. gave me fuch a difinal account of the place, that I could not think of leaving you in it without company." Our young gentleman, who was naturally impatient of benefits, and forefaw that this uncommon instance of Hatchway's friendship would encroach upon the plan which he had formed for his own subsistence, by engrossing his time and attention, fo as that he should not be able to profecute his labours; closeted the lieutenant next day, and demonstrated to him the folly and ill consequences of the step he had taken. observed, that the world in general would look upon it as the effect of mere madness; and, if his relations were fo disposed, they might make it the foundation for a statute of lunacy against him; that his absence from the garrison must be a very great detriment to his private affairs; and, laftly, that his presence in the Fleet would be a great hindrance to Pickle himfelf, whose hope of regaining his liberty altogether depended upon his being detached from all company and interruption.

To these remonstrances Jack replied, that, as

him than a rotten net-line; and if his relations had a mind to have his upper works condemned, he did not doubt but he should be able to stand the survey without being declared unsit for service; that he had no affairs at the garrison but such as would keep cold; and with regard to Pickle's being interrupted by his presence, he gave him his word, that he would never come along-side of him, except when he should give him the signal for holding discourse. In conclusion, he signified his resolution to stay where he was, at all events, without making himself accountable to any person whatsoever.

Peregrine seeing him determined, desisted from any further importunity; resolving, however, to tire him out of his plan by reserve and supercisious neglect; for he could not bear the thought of being so notoriously disobliged by any person upon earth. With this view he quitted the lieutenant, upon some slight pretence; after having told him that he could not have the pleasure of his company at dinner, because he was engaged with a particular club of his fellow-prisoners.

Jack was a stranger to the punctilios of behaviour, and therefore did not take this declaration amis; but had immediate recourse to the advice of his counsellor Mr Pipes, who proposed that he should go to the coffee-house and kitchen, and give the people to understand that he would pay for all such liquor and provisions.

lodging. This expedient was immediately practifed; and, as there was no credit in the place, Hatchway deposited a sum of money, by way of security, to the cook and the vintner, intimating, that there was a necessity of taking that method of befriending his cousin Peregrine, who was subject to strange whims that rendered it impossible to serve him any other way.

In consequence of these infinuations, it was that fame day rumoured about the Fleet, that Mr Pickle was an unhappy gentleman disordered in his understanding; and that the lieutenant was his near relation, who had subjected himself to the inconvenience of living in a jail, with the fole view of keeping a strict eye over his conduct. This report, however, did not reach the ears of our hero till the next day, when he fent one of the runners of the Fleet, who attended him, to bespeak and pay for a couple of pullets, and something elfe for dinner, to which he had already invited his friend Hatchway, in hope of being able to persuade him to retire into the country, after he had undergone a whole day's mortification in the place. The messenger returned with an affurance, that the dinner should be made ready according to his directions, and restored the money. observing that his kinsinan had paid for what was bespoke.

Peregrine was equally surprised and disgusted at this information, and resolved to chide the

lieutenant severely for his unseasonable treat, which he confidered as a thing repugnant to his reputation. Mean-while, he dispatched his attendant for wine to the coffee-house, and finding his credit bolflered up in that place by the fame means, was enraged at the prefumption of Jack's friendship. He questioned the valet about it with fuch manifestation of displeasure, that the fellow, afraid of difobliging fuch a good mafter, frankly communicated the story which was circulated at his expence. The young gentleman was fo much incenfed at this piece of intelligence, that he wrote a bitter expostulation to the lieutenant, wherein he not only retracted his invitation, but declared that he would never converse with him while he should remain within the place.

Having thus obeyed the dictates of his anger, he gave notice to the cook, that he should not have occasion for what was ordered. Repairing to the coffee house, he told the landlord, that whereas he understood the stranger with the wooden leg had prepossessed him and others with ridiculous notions tending to bring the sanity of his intellects in question; and to confirm this imputation, had, under the pretence of confanguinity, undertaken to defray his expences, he could not help (in justice to himself) declaring, that the same person was, in reality, the madman, who had given his keepers the slip; that, therefore, he (the landlord) would not find his account in complying with his orders, and encouraging

him to frequent his house; and that, for his own part, he would never enter the door, or favour him with the least trifle of his custom, if ever he should for the future find himself anticipated in his payments by that unhappy lunatic.

The vintner was confounded at this retorted charge: and, after much perplexity and deliberation, concluded, that both parties were distracted; the stranger in paying a man's debts against his will, and Pickle, in being offended at such forwardness of friendship.

# C H A P. XCIX.

These afficiates commit an affault upon Crabtree, for which they are banished from the Fleet, Peregrine begins to feel the effects of confinement.

Our adventurer having dined at an ordinary, and in the afternoon retired to his own apartment, as usual, with his friend Cadwallader; Hatchway and his affociate, after they had been obliged to discuss the provision for which they had paid, renewed their conference upon the old subject. Pipes giving his mess-mate to understand, that Peregrine's chief confident was the old deaf batchelor, whom he had seen at his lodging the preceding day. Mr Hatchway, in his great penetration, discovered, that the young gentleman's obstinacy proceeded from the advice of the

misanthrope, whom, for that reason, it was their business to chastise. Pipes entered into this opinion the more willingly, as he had all along believed the senior to be a fort of wizzard, or some caco dæmon, whom it was not very creditable to be acquainted with. Indeed, he had been infpired with this notion by the infinuations of Hadgi, who had formerly dropped fome hints touching Crabtree's profound knowledge in the magic art; mentioning, in particular, his being possessed of the philosopher's stone; an affertion to which Tom had given implicit credit until his master was sent to prison for debt, when he could no longer suppose Cadwallader lord of such a valuable fecret, or else he would have certainly procured the enlargement of his most intimate friend.

With these sentiments he espoused the resentment of Hatchway. They determined to seize the
supposed conjurer, with the first opportunity on
his return from his visit to Peregrine, and without hesitation exercise upon him the discipline of
the pump. This plan they would have executed that same evening, had not the misanthrope
luckily withdrawn himself by accident before it
was dark, and even before they had intelligence
of his retreat. But next day they kept themselves upon the watch 'till he appeared, and Pipes
listing his hat as Crabtree passed, "O damn ye
old Dunny (said he) you and I must grapple by
and bye; and a'gad I shall lie so near your quar-

ter, that your ear-ports will let in the found, tho'f they are double caulked with oakhum."

The mifanthrope's ears were not quite fo fast closed, but that they received this intimation : which, though delivered in terms that he did not understand, had fuch an effect upon his apprehension, that he signified his doubts to Peregrine, observing, that he did not much like the looks of that same ruffian with the wooden leg. Pickle affured him he had nothing to fear from the two failors, who could have no cause of resentment against him; or, if they had, would not venture to take any step which they knew must block up all the avenues to that reconcilement about which they were fo anxious; and moreover, give fuch offence to the governor of the place, as would infallibly induce him to expel them both from his territories.

Notwithstanding this assurance, the young gentleman was not so consident of the lieutenant's descretion, as to believe that Crabtree's fears were altogether without soundation; he forthwith conjectured that Jack had taken umbrage at an intimacy, from which he found himself excluded, and imputed his disgrace to the instinuations of Cadwallader, whom, in all likelihood, he intended to punish for his supposed advice. He knew his friend could sustain no great damage from the lieutenant's resentment in applace which he could immediately alarm with his cries, and therefore wished he might fall into the snare, be-

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cause it would furnish him with a pretence of complaint; in consequence of which, the sailors would be obliged to shift their quarters, so as that he should be rid of their company, in which he

at present could find no enjoyment.

Every thing happened as he had foreseen: the misanthrope, in his retreat from Peregrine's chamber, was affaulted by Hatchway and his af-Sociate, who seized him by the collar without ceremony, and began to drag him towards the pump, at which they would have certainly complimented him with a very difagreeable bath, had not he exalted his voice in fuch a manner, as in a moment brought a number of the inhabitants, and Pickle himself, to his aid. The affailants would have perfifted in their defign, had the opposition been such as they could have faced with any possibility of success: nor did they quit their prey before a dozen at least had come to his refcue, and Peregrine, with a menacing aspect and air of authority, commanded his old valet to withdraw: then they thought proper to fleer off, and betake themselves to close quarters, while our hero accompanied the affrighted Cadwallader to the gate, and exhibited to the warden a formal complaint against the rioters, upon whom he retorted the charge of lunacy, which was supported-by the evidence of twenty persons, who had been eye-witnesses of the outrage committed against the old gentleman.

The governor, in consequence of this infor-

mation, fent a message to Mr Hatchway, warning him to move his lodging next day on pain of being expelled. The lieutenant, contumaciously resulting to comply with this intimation, was in the morning, while he amused himself in walking upon the Bare, suddenly surrounded by the constables of the court, who took him and his adherent prisoners before they were aware, and delivered them into the hands of the turnkeys, by whom they were immediately dismissed, and their baggage conveyed to the side of the ditch.

This expulsion was not performed without an obstinate opposition on the part of the delinquents, who, had they not been surprised, would have fet the whole Fleet at defiance, and, in all probability, have acted divers tragedies, before they could have been overpowered. Things being circumstanced as they were, the lieutenant did not part with his conductor, without tweaking his nose by way of farewell; and Pipes, in imitation of fuch a laudable example, communicated a token of remembrance, in an application to the fole eye of his attendant, who fcorning to be out-done in this kind of courtefy, returned the compliment with fuch good will that Tom's organ performed the office of a multiplying glass. These were mutual hints for stripping; and accordingly each was naked from the waift upwards in a trace. A ring of butchers from the market was immediately formed; a couple of the rever-

end Flamens, who, in morning-gowns, ply for marriages in that quarter of the town, constituted themselves seconds and umpires of the approaching contest, and the battle began without further preparation. The combatants were, in point of strength and agility, pretty equally matched; but the jailor had been regularly trained to the art of bruifing: he had more than once fignalized himself in public, by his prowess and skill in this exercise, and lost one eye upon the stage in the course of his exploits. This was a misfortune of which Pipes did not fail to take the advantage: he had already sustained several hard knocks upon his temples and jaws, and found it impracticable to fmite his antagonist upon the victualling office, fo dextroufly was it defended against the affault. He then changed his battery, and being ambi-dexter, raifed fuch a clatter upon the turnkey's blind fide, that this hero, believing him left handed, converted his attention that way, and opposed the unenlightened side of his face to the right-hand of Pipes, which being thus unprovided againft, flily bestowed upon him a peg under the fifth rib, that in an instant, laid him senseless on the pavement, at the feet of his conqueror. Pipes was congratulated upon his victory, not only by his friend Hatchway, but also by all the by-flanders, particularly the prieft who had espoused his cause, and now invited the Arangers to his lodging in a neighbouring alehouse, where they were entertained so much to

their liking, that they determined to feek no other habitation while they should continue in town: and notwithstanding the disgrace and discouragement they had met with in their endeavours to serve our adventurer, they were still resolved to persevere in their good offices, or, in the vulgar phrase, to see him out.

While they settled themselves in this manner, and acquired familiar connexions round all the purlieus of the ditch, Peregrine found himself deprived of the company of Cadwallader, who signified by letter, that he did not chuse to hazard his person again in visiting him, while such assailablins occupied the avenues through which he must pass; for he had been at pains to inquire into the motions of the sea-men, and informed himself exactly of the harbour in which they were moored.

Our hero had been so much accustomed to the conversation of Crabtree, which was altogether suitable to the singularity of his own disposition, that he could very ill afford to be debarred of it at this juncture, when almost every other source of enjoyment was stopped. He was, however, obliged to submit to the hardships of his situation; and as the characters of his fellow-prisoners did not at all improve upon him, he was compelled to seek for satisfaction within himself. Not but that he had an opportunity of conversing with some people, who neither wanted sense nor were deficient in point of principle; yet there appeared

in the behaviour of them all, without exception, a certain want of decorum, a squalor of sentiment, a fort of jailish cast contracted in the course of confinement, which disgusted the delicacy of our hero's observation. He, therefore, detached himself from their parties as much as he could, without giving offence to those among whom he was obliged to live, and resumed his labours with incredible eagerness and perseverance, his spirits being supported by the success of some severe Philippics, which he occasionally published against the author of his missortune.

Nor was his humanity unemployed in the vacations of his revenge: a man must be void of all fympathy and compassion, who can retide among fo many miserable objects, without feeling an inclination to relieve their diffress. Every day almost presented to his view such lamentable scenes, as were most likely to attract his notice, and engage his benevolence. Reverfes of fortune, attended with the most deplorable circumstances of domestic woe, were continually intruding upon his acquaintance; his ears were invaded with the cries of the hapless wife, who, from the enjoyment of affluence and pleasure, was forced to follow her husband to this abode of wretchedness and want; his eyes were every minute affailed with the naked and meagre appearances of hunger and cold; and his fancy teemed with a thoufand aggravations of their mifery.

Thus fituated, his purfe was never shut while

his heart remained open. Without reflecting upon the slenderness of his store, he exercised his charity to all the children of diffress, and acquired a popularity, which, though pleasing, was far from being profitable. In short, his bounty kept no pace with his circumstances, and in a little time he was utterly exhausted. He had recourse to his book-feller, from whom, with great difficulty, he obtained a fmall reinforcement; and immediately relapfed into the same want of retention. He was conscious of his infirmity, and and found it incurable: he forfaw that by his own industry he should never be able to defray the expence of these occasions; and this reflection funk deep into his mind. The approbation of the public, which he had earned or might acquire, like a cordial often repeated, began to lose its effect upon his imagination; his health suffered by his fedentary life and auftere application; his eye-fight failed, his appetite forfook him, his spirits decayed; so that he became melancholy, liftless, and altogether incapable of profecuting the only means he had left for his subsistence; and (what did not at all contribute to the alleviation of these particulars,) he was given to understand by his lawyer, that he had lost his cause, and was condemned in costs. Even this was not the most mortifying piece of intelligence he received; he at the fame time learned that his bookfeller was bankrupt, and his friend Crabtree at the point of death.

These were comfortable considerations to a youth of Peregrine's disposition, which was so capricious, that the more his mifery increased, the more haughty and inflexible he became. Rather than be beholden to Ha: chway, who still hovered about the gate, eager for an opportunity to affift him, he choosed to undergo the want of almost every convenience of life, and actually pledged his wearing apparel to an Irish pawnbroker in the Fleet, for money to purchase those things without which he must have absolutely perished. He was gradually irritated by his misfortunes into a rancorous refentment against mankind in general, and his heart fo alienated from the enjoyments of life, that he did not care how foon he quitted his miserable existence. Though he had shocking examples of the vicissitudes of fortune continually before his eyes, he could never be reconciled to the idea of living like his fellow-fufferers in the most abject degreeof dependence. If he refused to accept of favours from his own allies and intimate friends, whom he had formerly obliged, it is not be fupposed that he would listen to proposals of that kind from any of his fellow-prisoners, with whom he had contracted acquaintance: he was even more cautious than ever of incurring obligations; he now shunned his former mess-mates, in order to avoid disagreeable tenders of friendship. Imagining that he perceived an inclination in the elergyman, to learn the state of his finances, he

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discouraged and declined the explanation, and at length secluded himself from all society.

#### CHAP. C.

He receives an unexpected visit; and the clouds of misfortune begin to separate.

THILE he pined in this forlorn condition, with an equal abhorrence of the world, and himself, captain Gauntlet arrived in town, in order to employ his interest for promotion in the army; and in consequence of his wife's particular desire, made it his business to inquire for Peregrine, to whom he longed to be reconciled, even though at the expence of a flight fubmission. But he could hear no tidings of him at the place to which he was directed; and, on the supposition that our hero had gone to reside in the country, applied himself to his own business, with intention to renew his inquiries after that affair should be transacted. He communicated his demands to his supposed patron, who had assumed the merit of making him a captain, and been gratified with a valuable present on that consideration; and was cajoled with hopes of succeeding in his present aim, by the same interest.

Mean while, he became acquainted with one of the clerks belonging to the war-office, whose advice and affishance, he was told, would be a furtherance to his scheme. As he had occasion to discourse with this gentleman upon the circumstances of his expectation, he learned, that the nobleman upon whom he depended was a person of no consequence in the state, and altogether incapable of assisting him in his advancement. At the same time, his counsellor expressed his surprise that captain Gauntlet did not rather interest in his cause the noble peer to whose good offices he owed his last commission.

This remark introduced his explanation, by which Godfrey discovered, to his infinite assonishment, the mistake in which he had continued so long with regard to his patron; though he could not divine the motive which induced a nobleman, with whom he had no acquaintance or connection, to interpose his influence in his behalf. Whatsoever that might be, he thought it was his duty to make his acknowledgment; and for that purpose went next morning to his house, where he was politely received, and given to understand, that Mr Pickle was the person to whose friendship he was indebted for his last promotion.

Inexpressible were the transports of gratitude, affection, and remorfe, that took possession of the soul of Gauntlet when this mystery was unfolded. "Good heaven! (cried he, lifting up his hand) have I lived so long in a state of animosity with my benefactor? I intended to have reconciled myself to him, at any rate, before I was sensible of this obligation; but now I shall not

enjoy a moment's quiet until I have an opportunity of expressing to him my sense of his heroic friendship. I presume, from the nature of the savour conferred upon him, in my behalf, that Mr Pickle is well known to your lordship: and I should think myself extremely happy, if you could inform me in what part of the country he is to be found: for the person with whom he lodged, some time ago, could give me no intelligence of his motions."

The nobleman, touched with this instance of generous self-denial in Peregrine, as well as with the sensibility of his friend, lamented the unhappiness of our hero, while he gave Gauntlet to understand that he had been long disordered in his intellects, in consequence of having squandered away his fortune; and that his creditors had thrown him into the Fleet-prison: but whether he still continued in that confinement, or was released from his missortunes by death, his lord-ship did not know, because he had never inquired.

Godfrey no fooner received this intimation, than (his blood boiling with grief and impatience) he craved pardon for his abrupt departure; then quitting his informer on the instant, reimbarked in his hackney-coach, and ordered himself to be conveyed directly to the Fleet. As the vehicle proceeded along one side of the market, he was surprised with the appearance of Hatchway and Pipes, who stood cheapening collysowers at a green-stall, their heads being cased in worsted

night-caps, half covered with their hats, and a short tobacco-pipe in the mouth of each. He was rejoiced at fight of the two feamen, which he took for a happy omen of finding his friend: and ordering the coachman to stop the carriage, called the lieutenant by his name. Jack replying with an Hiloah, looking behind him, and recognizing the face of his old acquaintance, ran up to the coach with great eagerness. Shaking the captain heartily by the hand, " Odd's heart! (faid he) I am glad thou hast fallen in with us; we shall now be able to find the trim of the vesfel, and lay her about on t'other tack. For my own part, I have had many a confort in my time, that is, in the way of good fellowship, and I always made shift to ware 'em at one time or another; but this headstrong toad will neither obey the helm nor the sheet; and, for aught I know, will founder where he lies at anchor.

Gauntlet, who conceived part of his meaning, alighted immediately; and being conducted to the failor's lodging, was informed of every thing that had paffed between the lieutenant and Pickle. He, in his turn, communicated to Jack the discovery which he had made, with regard to his commiffion; at which the other gave no figns of furprife: but taking the pipe from his mouth, "Why, look ye, captain (faid he) that's not the only good turn you have owed him. That fame money you received from the commodore, as an old debt, was all a sham contrived by Pickle for

your service; but a' wool drive under his bare poles, without sails and rigging, or a mess of provision on board, rather than take the same assistance from another man."

Godfrey was not only amazed, but chagrined at the knowledge of this anecdote; which gave umbrage to his pride, while it stimulated his defire of doing fomething in return for the obligation. He inquired into the present circumstances of the prisoner; and understanding that he was indifposed, and but indifferently provided with the common necessaries of life, though still deaf to all offers of affiltance, began to be extremely concerned at the account of his favage obstinacy and pride, which would, he feared, exclude him from the privilege of relieving him in his diffress. However, he refolved to leave no expedient untried that might have any tendency to furmount fuch destructive prejudice; and, entering the jail. was directed to the apartment of the wretched prifoner. He knocked foftly at the door, and when it was opened, started back with horror and aflonishment; the figure that presented itself to his view, was the remains of his once happy friend; but so miserably altered and disguised, that his features were fcarce cognizable. The florid, the sprightly, the gay, the elevated youth, was now metamorphofed into a wan, dejected, meagre, fqualid spectre; the hollow-eyed representative of distemper, indigence and despair: yet his eyes

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retained a certain ferocity, which threw a difmal gleam athwart the cloudiness of his aspect, and he, in silence, viewed his old companion with a look betokening confusion and disdain. As for Gauntlet, he could not, without emotion, behold such a woeful reverse of fate, in a person for whom he entertained the noblest sentiments of friendship, gratitude, and esteem: his sorrow was at first too big for utterance, and he shed a slood of tears before he could pronounce one word.

Peregrine, in spite of his misanthropy, could not help being affected with this uncommon testimony of regard; but he strove to stifle his sensations; his brows contracted themselves into a severe frown; his eyes kindled into the appearance of live coals: he waved with his hand, in signal for Godfrey to be gone, and leave such a wretch as him to the miseries of his fate; and sinding nature too strong to be suppressed, uttered a deep groan, and wept aloud.

The foldier, feeing him thus melted, unable to restrain the strong impulse of his affection, sprung towards, and clasping him in his arms, "My dearest friend and best benefactor (said he,) I am come hither to humble myself for the offence I was so unhappy as to give, at our last parting; to beg a reconciliation, to thank you for the ease and affluence I have enjoyed through your means, and to rescue you, in spite of yourself, from this melancholy situation; of which, but an hour

ago, I was utterly ignorant. Do not deny me the fatisfaction of acquitting myself in point of duty and obligation. You must certainly have had fome regard for a person in whose favour you have exerted yourfelf fo much; and if any part of that esteem remains, you will not refuse himan opportunity of approving himfelf, in some measure, worthy of it. Let me not suffer the most mortifying of all repulses, that of slighted friendship; but kindly facrifice your resentment and inflexibility to the request of one, who is at all times ready to facrifice his life for your honour and advantage. If you will not yield to my intreaties, have some regard to the wishes of my Sophy, who laid me under the strongest injunctions to folicit your forgiveness even before she knew how much I was indebted to your generofity; or, if that confideration should be of no weight, I hope you will relax a little for the fake of poor Emilia, whose refentment hath been long fubdued by her affection, and who now droops in secret at your neglect."

Every word of this address, delivered in the most pathetic manner, made an impression upon the mind of Peregrine: he was affected with the submission of his friend, who, in reality, had given him no just cause to complain. He knew that no ordinary motive had swayed him to a condescension, so extraordinary in a man of his punctilious temper; he considered it, therefore, as the genuine effect of eager gratitude and disin-

terested love, and his heart began to relent accordingly. When he heard himfelf conjured in the name of the gentle Sophy, his obstinacy was quite overcome; and when Emilia was recalled to his remembrance, his whole frame underwent a violent agitation. He took his friend by the hand, with a softened look; and as soon as he recovered the faculty of speech, which had been overpowered in the conflict of passions that transported him, protested, that he retained no vestige of animofity, but confidered him in the light of an affectionate comrade, the ties of whose friendship, adversity could not unbind. He mentioned Sophy in the most respectful terms; spoke of Emilia with the most reverential awe, as the object of his inviolable love and veneration; but disclaimed all hope of ever more attracting her regard; and excused himself from profiting by Godfrey's kind intention, declaring, with a refolute air, that he had broke off all connexion with mankind, and that he impatiently longed for the hour of his diffolution, which, if it should not foon arrive by the course of nature, he was resolved to hasten it with his own hands, rather than be exposed to the contempt, and more intolerable pity, of a rafcally world.

Gauntlet argued against this frantic determination with all the vehemence of exposulating friendship; but his remonstrances did not produce the desired effect upon our desperate hero, who calmly refuted all his arguments, and afferted the rectitude of his design from the pretended max-

ims of reason and true philosophy.

While this dispute was carried on with eagerness on one side, and deliberation on the other, a letter was brought to Peregrine, who threw it carelessy aside unopened, though the superscription was in an hand-writing to which he was a stranger: and, in all probability, the contents would never have been perused, had not Gaunt-let insisted upon his waving all ceremony, and reading it forthwith. Thus solicited, Pickle unsealed the billet, which, to his no small surprise, contained the following intimation:

Mr P. Pickle,

SIR,

dangers and disappointments, I am, by the blessing of God, safely arrived in the Downs, on board of the Gomberoon Indiaman, having made a tolerable voyage; by which I hope I shall be enabled to repay, with interest, the seven hundred pounds which I borrowed of you before my departure from England. I take this opportunity of writing by our purser, who goes express with dispatches for the Company, that you may have this satisfactory notice, as soon as possible, relating to one whom I suppose you have long given over as lost. I have inclosed it in as

letter to my broker, who, I hope, knows your address, and will forward it accordingly: and I am, with respect Sir,

Your most humble servant, Benjamin Chintz.

He had no fooner taken a curfory view of this agreeable epistle, than his countenance cleared up, and reaching it to his friend, with a fmile, " There (faid he) is a more convincing argument, on your fide of the question, than all the casuists in the universe can advance." Gauntlet wondering at this observation, took the par per, and casting his eyes greedily upon the contents, congratulated him upon the receipt of it, with extravagant demonstrations of joy: " Not on account of the fum (faid he) which, upon my honour, I would, with pleasure, pay three times over for your convenience and fatisfaction; but because it seems to have reconciled you to life, and disposed your mind for re-enjoying the comforts of fociety.

The inflantaneous effect which this unexpected smile of fortune produced in the appearance of our adventurer, is altogether inconceivable; it plumped up his cheeks in a moment, unbended and enlightened every feature of his face; elevated his head, which had begun to sink, as it were, between his shoulders; and, from a squeaking, dispirited tone, swelled up his voice to a clear, manly accent. Godfrey, taking advantage of

this favourable change, began to regale him with prospects of future success: he reminded him of his youth and qualifications, which were certainly designed for better days than those he had as yet feen; he pointed out various paths, by which he might arrive at wealth and reputation; he importuned him to accept of a fum for his immediate occasions; and earnestly begged, that he would allow him to discharge the debt for which he was confined; observing, that Sophy's fortune had enabled him to exhibit that proof of his gratitude. without any detriment to his affairs; and protesting that he should not believe himself in posfession of Mr Pickle's esteem, unless he was permitted to make some such return of good-will to the man, who had not only raifed him from indigence and fcorn to competence and reputable rank, but also impowered him to obtain the posfession of an excellent woman, who had filled up the measure of his felicity.

Peregrine declared himself already overpaid for all his good offices, by the pleasure he enjoyed in employing them, and the happy effects they had produced, in the mutual satisfaction of two persons so dear to his affection; and assured his friend, that one time or other he would set his conscience at ease, and remove the scruples of his honour, by having recourse to his assistance: but, at present, he could not make use of his friendship, without giving just cause of offence to honest Hatchway, who was prior to him in points

of folicitation, and had manifested his attachment with surprising obstinacy and perseverance.

#### C H A P. CI.

Peregrine reconciles himself to the lieutenant; and renews his connexion with society. Divers plans are projected in his behalf; and he has occasion to exhibit a nemarkable proof of self-denial.

HE captain, with reluctance, yielded the preference in this particular to Jack, who was immediately inxited to a conference, by a note subscribed with Pickle's own hand. He was found at the prison-gate waiting for Gauntlet, to know the iffue of his negociation. He no. fooner received this summons than he set all his fails, and made the best of his way to his friend's. apartment; being admitted by the turnkey, in consequence of Peregrine's request, communicated by the messenger who carried the billet. Pipes followed close in the wake of his shipmate; and, in a few minutes after the note had been. dispatched, Peregrine and Gauntlet heard the found of the stump, ascending the wooden staircase with such velocity, that they at first mistook it for the application of drum-flicks to the head! of an empty barrel. This uncommon speed, however, was attended with a misfortune; he chanced: to overlook a small defect in one of the steps, and

his prop plunging into a hole, he fell backwards, to the imminent danger of his life. Tom was luckily at his back, and sustained him in his arms, so as that he escaped without any other damage than the loss of his wooden leg, which was snapt in the middle, by the weight of his body, in falling; and such was his impatience, that he would not give himself the trouble to disengage the fractured member. Unbuckling the whole equipage in a trace, he lest it slicking in the crevice, saying, a rotten cable was not worth the heaving up; and, in this natural state of mutilation, hopped into the room with infinite expedition.

Peregrine taking him cordially by the hand, feated him upon one fide of his bed; and after having made an apology for that referve, of which he had so justly complained, asked if he could conveniently accommodate him with the loan of twenty guineas. The lieutenant, without opening his mouth, pulled out his purfe; and Pipes, who overheard the demand, applying the whiftle to his lips, performed a loud overture, in token of his joy. Matters being thus brought to an accommodation, our hero told the capcain, that he should be glad of his company at dinner, with their common friend Hatchway, if he would in the mean time leave him to the ministry of Pipes; and the foldier went away for the present, in order to pay a short visit to his uncle, who, at that time, languished in a declining state of health, promifing to return at the appointed hour.

The lieutenant, having surveyed the dismat appearance of his friend, could not help being moved at the spectacle, and began to upbraid him with his obstinate pride, which (he swore) was no better than felf-murder. But the young gentleman interrupted him in the course of his moralizing, by telling him he had reasons for his conduct, which, perhaps, he should impart in due feafon; but, at present, his design was to alter that plan of behaviour, and make himself some amends for the mifery he had undergone. accordingly fent Pipes to redeem his cloaths from the pawn-broker's wardrobe, and bespeak something comfortable for dinner. When Godfrey came back, he was very agreeably furprifed to fee fuch a favourable alteration in his externals; for, by the affiltance of his valet, he had purified himself from the dregs of his diffress, and now appeared in a decent fuit, with clean linen, while his face was difincumbered of the hair that overshadowed it, and his apartment prepared for the reception of company.

They enjoyed their meal with great satisfaction, entertaining one another with a recapitulation of their former adventures at the garrison. In the afternoon, Gauntlet taking his leave, in order to write a letter to his sister, at the desire of his uncle, who finding his end approaching, wanted to see her without loss of time. Peregrine made his appearance on the Bare, and was complimented on his coming abroad again, not only

by his old mess-mates, who had not seen him for many weeks, but by a number of those objects whom his liberality had fed before his funds were exhausted. Hatchway was, by his interest with the warden, put in possession of his former quarters, and Pipes dispatched to make inquiry about Crabtree at his former lodging, where he learned, that the misanthrope, after a very severe sit of illness, was removed to Kensington Gravel-pits, for the convenience of breathing a purer air than that of London.

In consequence of this information, Peregrine, who knew the narrowness of the old gentleman's fortune, next day desired his friend Gauntlet to take the trouble of visiting him, in his name, with a letter, in which he expressed great concern for his indisposition, gave him notice of the fortunate intelligence he had received from the Downs, and conjured him to make use of his purse if he was in the least hampered in his circumstances. The captain took coach immediately, and set out for the place, according to the direction which Pipes had procured.

Cadwallader having seen him at Bath, knew him again at first sight; and, though reduced to a skeleton, believed himself in such a fair way of doing well, that he would have accompanied him to the Fleet immediately, had not he been restrained by his nurse, who was, by his physician, invested with sull authority to dispute and oppose his will, in every thing that she should think pre-

judicial to his health; for he was confidered by these who had the care of him, as an old humourift, not a little distempered in his brain. quired particularly about the failors, who, (he faid,) had deterred him from carrying on his usual correspondence with Pickle, and been the immediate cause of his indisposition by terrifying him into a fever. Understanding, that the breach between Pickle and Hatchway was happily cemented, and that he was no longer in any danger from the lieutenant's resentment, he promifed to be at the Fleet with the first convenient opportunity; and, in the mean time, wrote an answer to Peregrine's letter, importing, that he was obliged to him for his offer, but had not the least occasion for his affistance.

In a few days, our adventurer recovered his vigour, complexion, and vivacity; he mingled again in the diversions and parties of the place; and he received, in a little time, the money he had lent upon bottomry, which, together with the interest, amounted to upwards of eleven hundred pounds. The possession of this sum, while it buoyed up his spirits, involved him in perplexity. Sometimes he thought it was incumbent upon him, as a man of honour, to employ the greatest part of it, in diminishing the debt for which he suffered; on the other hand, he considered that obligation essated, by the treacherous behaviour of his creditor, who had injured him to ten times the value of the sum; and in these

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fentiments, entertained thoughts of attempting his escape from prison, with a view of conveying himself, with the shipwreck of his fortune, to another country in which he might use it to better advantage.

Both fuggestions were attended with such doubts and difficulties, that he hesitated between them, and, for the present, laid out a thousand pounds in stock, the interest of which, together with the fruits of his own industry, he hoped, would support him above want in his confinement, until fomething should occur that would point out the expediency of fome other determination. Gauntlet still insisted upon having the honour of obtaining his liberty at the expence of taking up his notes to Gleanum, and exhorted him to purchase a commission with part of the money which he had retrieved. The lieutenant affirmed, that it was his privilege to procure the release of his cousin Pickle, because he enjoyed a very handsome sum by his aunt, which, of right belonged to the young gentleman, to whom he was, moreover, indebted for the use of his furniture, and for the very house that stood over his head; and that, although he had already made a will in his favour, he should never be satisfied, nor easy in his mind, so long as he remained deprived of his liberty, and wanted any of the conveniences of life.

Cadwallader, who by this time affisted at their councils, and was best acquainted with the pecu-

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liarity and unbending disposition of the youth, proposed, that seeing he was so averse to obligations, Mr Hatchway should purchase of him the garrison with its appendages, which, at a moderate price, would sell for more money than would be sufficient to discharge his debts; that if the service subordination of the army did not suit his inclinations, he might, with his reversion, buy a comfortable annuity, and retire with him to the country, where he might live absolutely independent, and etertain himself, as usual, with the ridiculous characters of mankind.

This plan was to Pickle less disagreeable than any other project which had as yet been fuggested; and the lieutenant declared himself ready to exeeute his part of it, without delay : but the foldier was mortified at the thoughts of feeing his affiftance unnecessary, and eagerly objected to the retirement, as a scheme that would blast the fairest promises of fame and fortune, and bury his youth and talents in folitude and obscurity. This earnest opposition on the part of Gauntlet, hindered our adventurer from forming any immediate resolution; which was also retarded by his unwillingness to part with the garrison upon any terms, because he looked upon it as a part of his inheritance, which he could not dispose of, without committing an infult on the memory of the deceased commodore.

#### C H A P. CII.

He is engaged in a very extraordinary correspondence, which is interrupted by a very unexpected event.

WHILE this affair was in agitation, the captain told him, in the course of conversation, that Emilia was arrived in town, and had inquired about Mr Pickle with such an eagerness of concern, as seemed to proclaim that she was in some measure informed of his missortune: he therefore desired to know if he might be allowed to make her acquainted with his situation, provided he should be again importuned by her on that subject, which he had at first industriously waved.

This proof, or rather presumption of her sympathising regard, did not fail to operate powerfully upon the bosom of Peregrine, which was immediately filled with those tumults which love, ill stifled, frequently excites. He observed, that his disgrace was such as could not be effectually concealed; therefore he saw no reason for depriving himself of Emilia's compassion, since he was for ever excluded from her affection; and desired Godfrey to present to his sister the lowly respects of a despairing lover.

But, notwithstanding his declaration of despondence on this head, his imagination involuntarily

teemed with more agreeable ideas: the propofal of Crabtree had taken root in his reflection, and he could not help forming plans of pastoral felicity, in the arms of the lovely Emilia, remote from those pompous scenes, which he now detested and despised. He amused his fancy with the prospect of being able to support her in a state of independency, by means of the slender annuity which it was in his power to purchase, together with the fruits of those endeavours which would profitably employ his vacant hours; and forefaw provision for his growing family in the friendship of the lieutenant who had already constituted him his heir. He even parcelled out his hours among the necessary cares of the world, the pleasures of domestic bliss, and the enjoyments of a country life; and spent the night in ideal parties with his charming bride, fometimes walking by the fedgy bank of fome transparent stream, sometimes pruning the luxuriant vine, and fometimes fitting in focial converse with her in a shady grove of his own planting.

These, however, were no more than the shadowy phantoms of imagination, which, he well knew, would never be realized: not that he believed such happiness unattainable by a person in his circumstances; but because he would not stoop to propose a scheme, which might, in any shape, seem to interfere with the interest of Emilia, or subject himself to a repulse from that young lady, who had rejected his addresses in the

zenith of his fortune.

While he diverted himself with these agreeable reveries, an unexpected event intervened, in which she and her brother were deeply interested. The uncle was tapped for the dropsy, and died in a few days after the operation; having bequeathed, in his will, sive thousand pounds to his nephew, and twice that sum to his niece, who had always enjoyed the greatest share of his favour.

If our adventurer, before this occurrence, looked upon his love for Emilia as a passion which it was necessary, at any rate, to conquer or suppreis; he now confidered her accession of fortune as a circumstance which confirmed that neceffity, and refolved to discourage every thought on that subject which should tend to the propagation of hope. One day, in the midft of a conversation calculated for the purpose, Godfrey put into his hand a letter directed to Mr Pickle. in the hand-writing of Emilia; which the youth no fooner recognized, than his cheeks were covered with a crimfon dye, and he began to tremble with violent agitation: for he, at once, gueffed the import of the billet, which he kiffed with great reverence and devotion, and was not at all furprifed when he read the following words =

SIR,

Have performed a sufficient sacrifice to my reputation, in retaining hitherto the appearance of that resentment which I had long ago dismissed; and as the late savourable change in

my situation impowers me to avow my genuine tentiments, without fear of censure, or suspicion of mercenary design, I take this opportunity to assure you, that, if I still maintain that place in your heart which I was vain enough to think I once possessed, I am willing to make the first advances to an accommodation; and have actually surnished my brother with full powers to conclude it in the name of your appeased

EMILIA.

Pickle, having kiffed the subscription with great ardour, fell upon his knees, and lifting up his eyes, "Thank heaven! (cried he with an air of transport) I have not been mistaken in my opinion of that generous maid. I believed her inspired with the most dignified and heroic sentiments, and now the gives me a convincing proof of her magnanimity: it is now my business to approve myself worthy of her regard. May heaven inflict upon me the keenest arrows of its vengeance, if I do not, at this instant, contemplate the character of Emilia with the most perfect love and adoration; yet, amiable and inchanting as the is, I am, more than ever, determined to facrifice the interest of my passion to my glory, though my life should fail in the contest; and even to refuse an offer, which, otherwise, the whole universe should not bribe me to forego."

This declaration was not fo unexpected as un-

ed that his glory was not at all interested in the affair; because he had already vindicated his generosity, in repeated prossers to lay his whole fortune at Emilia's seet, when it was impossible that any thing selfish could enter into the proposal: but that, in rejecting her present purpose, he would give the world an opportunity to say, that his pride was capricious, his obstinacy invincible, and his sister would have undeniable reason to believe, that either his passion for her was dissembled, or the ardor of it considerably abated.

In answer to these remonstrances, Pickle obferved, that he had long set the world at defiance; and as to the opinion of Emilia, he did not doubt that she would applaud, in her heart, the resolution he had taken, and do justice to the purity of his intention.

It was not an easy task to divert our hero from his designs, at any time of life; but since his confinement, his inflexibility was become almost infurmountable. The captain, therefore, after having discharged his conscience, in affuring him that his sister's happiness was at stake, that his mother had approved of the step she had taken, and that he himself should be extremely mortised at his resusant, which served only to rivet him the more strongly in his own opinion: and undertook to deliver this answer to Emilia's letter:

Madam,

HAT I revere the dignity of your virtue with the utmost veneration, and love you infinitely more than life, I am at all times ready to demonstrate; but, the facrifice to honour, it is now my own turn to pay; and fuch is the rigour of my destiny, that, in order to justify your generofity, I must refuse to profit by your condescension. Madam, I am doomed to be for ever wretched; and to figh, without ceafing, for the possession of that jewel, which, though now in my offer, I dare not enjoy. I shall not pretend to express the anguish that tears my heart, whilst I communicate this fatal renunciation; but appeal to the delicacy of your own fentiments which can judge of my fufferings, and will, doubtlefs. do justice to the self-denial of your forlorn

P. PICKLE.

Emilia, who knew the nicety of our hero's pride, had foreseen the purport of this epistle, before it came to her hands: she did not, therefore, despair of success, nor desist from the prosecution of her plan; which was no other than that of securing her own happiness, in espousing the man upon whom she had fixed her unalterable affection. Consident of his honour, and fully satisfied of the mutual passion with which they were inspired, she gradually decoyed him into a literary correspondence, wherein she at-

tempted to refute the arguments on which he grounded his refusal; and, without doubt, the young gentleman was not a little pleased with the enjoyment of such delightful commerce, in the course of which he had (more than ever) an opportunity of admiring the poignancy of her wit, and the elegancy of her understanding.

The contemplation of fuch excellency, while it strengthened the chains with which she held him enflaved, added emulation to the other motives that induced him to maintain the dispute; and much fubtlety of reasoning was expended upon both sides of this very particular question, without any prospect of conviction on either part: 'till, at last, she began to despair of making him a profelyte to her opinion by dint of argument; and refolved, for the future, to apply herfelf chiefly to the irrefiftible prepoffessions of his love, which were not at all diminished or impaired by the essays of her pen. With this view, the proposed a conference, pretending that it was impossible to convey all her reflections. upon this subject, in a feries of short letters; and Godfrey undertook to bail him for the day: but conscious of her power, he would not trust himfelf in her presence, tho' his heart throbbed with all the eagerness of desire to see her fair eyes difrobed of that refentment which they had wore fo long, and to enjoy the ravishing sweets of a fond reconciliation.

Nature could not have held out against such

powerful attacks, had not the pride and caprice of his disposition been gratified to the full in the triumph of his resistance; he looked upon the contest as altogether original, and persevered with obstinacy, because he thought himself sure of favourable terms whenever he should be difposed to capitulate. Perhaps he might have overthat himself in the course of his perseverance: a young lady of Emilia's fortune and attractions, could not fail to find herfelf furrounded by temptations which few women can refift. She might have misinterpreted the meaning of some paragraph, or taken umbrage at an unguarded expression in one of Peregrine's letters: she might have been tired out by his obstinate peculiarity. or, at the long-run, construed it into madness, flight or indifference; or, rather than waste her prime in fruitless endeavours to subdue the pride of an headstrong humorist, she might have listened to the voice of some admirer, fraught with qualifications sufficient to engage her esteem and But all these possibilities were providentially prevented by an accident, attended with more important consequence than any we have hitherto recounted.

Early one morning, Pipes was disturbed by the arrival of a messenger, who had been sent express from the country by Mr Clover, with a packet for the lieutenant, and arrived in town over night; but as he was obliged to have recourse to the information of Jack's correspondent in the city, touching the place of his abode, before he demanded entrance at the Fleet, the gate was shut; nor would the turnkeys admit him, although he told them, that he was charged with a message of the utmost consequence, so that he was fain to tarry 'till day-break, when he, at his earnest solicitation, was allowed to enter.

Hatchway, opening the packet, found a letter inclosed for Peregrine, with an earnest request, that he should forward it to the hands of that young gentleman with all possible dispatch. Jack, who could not dive into the meaning of this extraordinary injunction, began to imagine that Mrs Clover lay at the point of death, and wanted to take her last farewel of her brother; and this conceit worked fo strongly upon his imagination, that, while he huddled on his clothes, and made the best of his way to the apartment of our hero, he could not help curfing, within himfelf, the folly of the husband in fending such disagreeable messages to a man of Peregrine's impatient temper, already foured by his own uneafy fituation.

This reflection would have induced him to suppress the letter, had not he been afraid to tamper with the ticklish disposition of his friend, to whom, while he delivered it, "As for my own part, (said he,) may hap I may have as much natural affection as another; but, when my spouse partted, I bore my missortune like a British man and a Christian: for, why? he's no better than a fresh-

water failor, who knows not how to stem the current of mischance."

Pickle being waked from a pleafing dream, in which the fair Emilia was principally concerned, and hearing this strange preamble, fat up in his bed, and unsealed the letter in a state of mortification and disgust: but, what were the emotions of his soul, when he read the following intimation!

Dear brother,

T hath pleased God to take your father suddenly off, by a fit of apoplexy; and, as he has died intestate. I give you this notice, that you may, with all speed, come down and take possesfion of your right, in despite of master Gam and his mother, who, you may be fure, do not fit eafy under this unexpected dispensation of providence. I have, by virtue of being a justice of the peace, taken such precautions as I have thought necessary for your advantage; and the funeral fhall be deferred until your pleasure be known. Your fister, though sincerely afflicted by her father's fate, submits to the will of heaven with laudable refignation, and begs you will fet out for this place without delay; in which request she is joined by, Sir,

Your affectionate brother, and Humble fervant,

CHARLES CLOVER.

Peregrine, at first, looked upon this epistle as a mere illusion of the brain, and a continuation of the reverie in which he had been engaged. He read it ten times over, without being perfuaded that he was actually awake; he rubbed his eyes, and shook his head, in order to shake off the droufy vapours that furrounded him: he hemm'd thrice with great vociferation, fnapp'd his fingers, tweak'd his nofe, started up from his bed, and opening the casement, took a survey of the well-known objects that appeared on each fide of his habitation. Every thing feemed congruous and connected, and he faid within himfelf, "Sure this is the most distinct dream that ever fleep produced." Then he had recourse again to the paper, which he carefully perused without finding any variation from his first notion of the contents.

Hatchway, seeing all this extravagance of action, accompanied with a wild stare of distraction, began to believe that his head was at length fairly turned, and was really meditating means for securing his person; when Pickle, in a tone of surprise, exclaimed, "Good God! am I or am I not awake?" "Why look ye, cousin Pickle, (replied the lieutenant) that is a question which the deep sea-line of my understanding is not long enough to sound: but, howsomever, tho's I can't trust to the observation I have taken, it shall go hard but I will fall upon a way to guess whereabouts we are." So saying, he lifted up a pitch-

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er full of cold water, that stood behind the outward door, and discharged it in the face of Pere-

grine without ceremony or hesitation.

This remedy produced the desired effect: unpalatable as it was, the young gentleman no sooner recovered his breath, which was endangered by such a sudden application, than he thanked his friend Jack for the seasonable operation he had performed. Having no longer any just reason to doubt the reality of what appealed so convincingly to his senses, he shifted himself on the instant, not without hurry and trepidation; and putting on his morning-dress, sallied forth to the Bare in order to deliberate with himself on the important intelligence he had received.

Hatchway, not yet fully convinced of his fanity, and curious to know the purport of the letter which had affected him in fuch an extraordinary manner, carefully attended his footsteps in this excursion, in hopes of being favoured with his confidence, in the course of their perambulation. Our hero no fooner appeared at the streetdoor, than he was faluted by the messenger, who, having posled himself in the way for that purpose, "God bliss your noble honour, squire Pickle (cried he,) and give you joy of succeeding to your father's estate." These words had scarce proceeded from his mouth, when the lieutenant hopping eagerly towards the countryman, squeezed his hand with great affection, and asked if the old gentleman had actually taken his departure:

" Ay, master Hatchway (replied the other) in fuch a woundy hafte, that he forgot to make a will." "Body of me! (exclaimed the feaman,) these are the best tidings I have heard fince I first went to sea. Here, my lad, take my purse, and flow thyfelf chocque-full of the best liquor in the land. So faying, he tipped the peafant with ten pieces, and immediately the whole place ecchoed with the found of Tom's instrument. Peregrine repairing to the walk, communicated the billet to his honest friend, who, at his defire, went forthwith to the lodgings of captain Gauntlet, and returned in less than half an hour with that gentleman, who, (I need not fay,) was heartily rejoiced at the occasion.

#### C H A P. CIII.

Peregrine holds a confultation with his friends. in consequence of which, he bids adieu to the Fleet. He arrives at his father's house, and afferts his right of inheritance.

TOR did our hero keep the misanthrope in ignorance of this happy turn of fortune: Pipes was dispatched to the senior with a message requesting his immediate presence; and he accordingly appeared, in obedience to the fummons, growling with discontent for having been deprived of feveral hours of his natural rest. His

mouth was immediately stopped with the letter, at which he *smiled horrible a ghastly grin*; and, after a compliment of congratulation, they entered into close divan, about the measures to be taken in consequence of this event.

There was no room for much debate: it was unanimously agreed, that Pickle should set out with all possible dispatch for the garrison, to which Gauntlet and Hatchway resolved to attend him. Pipes was accordingly ordered to prepare a couple of post-chaises, while Godfrey went to procure bail for his stiend, and provide them with money for the expence of the expedition, but not before he was desired by Peregrine to conceal this piece of news from his sister, that our youth might have an opportunity to surprise her in a more interesting manner after he should have settled his affairs.

All these previous steps being taken in less than an hour, our hero took his leave of the Fleet, after he had lest twenty guineas with the warden for the relief of the poor prisoners, a great number of whom convoyed him to the gate, pouring forth prayers for his long life and prosperity: and he took the road to the garrison, in the most elevated transports of joy, unallayed with the least mixture of grief at the death of a parent whose paternal tenderness he had never known. His breast was absolutely a stranger to that boasted  $\Sigma_{\tau \circ \varrho \gamma \dot{\eta}}$ , or instinct of affection, by which the charities are supposed to subsist.

Of all the journies he had ever made, this, fure, was the most delightful: he felt all the extaly that must naturally be produced in a young man of his imagination, from fuch a fudden tranfition in point of circumstance; he found himself delivered from confinement and difgrace, without being obliged to any person upon earth for his deliverance; he had it now in his power to retort the contempt of the world in a manner fuited to his most sanguine wish; he was reconciled to his friend, and enabled to gratify his love, even upon his own terms; and faw himfelf in poffession of a fortune more ample than his first inheritance, with a stock of experience that would fleer him clear of all those quicksands among which he had been formerly wrecked.

In the middle of their journey, while they halted at an inn for a short refreshment and change of horses, a possilion running up to Peregrine in the yard, sell at his feet, clasped his knees with great eagearness and agitation, and presented to him the individual face of his old valet de chamber. The youth perceiving him in such an abject garb and attitude, commanded him to rise and tell the cause of such a miserable reverse in his fortune. Upon which Hadgi gave him to understand, that he had been ruined by his wise, who having robbed him of all his cash and valuable effects, had eloped from his house, with one of his own customers who appeared in the character of a French count, but was in reality no

other than an Italian fidler; that, in consequence of this retreat, he (the husband,) was disabled from paying a considerable sum which he had set apart for his wine-merchant, who being disappointed in his expectation, took out an execution against his effects; and the rest of his creditors following his example, hunted him out of house and home: so that finding his person in danger at London, he had been obliged to escape into the country, skulking about from one village to another, till being quite destitute of all support, he had undertaken his present office to save himself from starving.

Peregrine listened with compassion to his lamentable tale, which too well accounted for his not appearing in the Fleet with offers of service to his master in distress; a circumstance that Pickle had all along imputed to his avarice and ingratitude. He assured him, that as he had been the means of throwing in his way the temptation to which he fell a sacrifice, he would charge himself with the retrieval of his affairs: in the mean time, he made him taste of his bounty, and desired him to continue in his present employment, until he should return from the garrison, when he would consider his situation, and do something for his immediate relief.

Hadgi attempted to kiss his shoe, and wept, or affected to weep, with sensibility, at this gracious reception; he even made a merit of his unwillingues to exercise his new occupation, and earnestly begged that he might be allowed to give immediate attendance upon his dear master, from whom he could not bear the thoughts of a second parting. His intreaties were reinforced by the intercession of his two friends, in consequence of which, the Swiss was permitted to follow them at his own leisure, while they set forwards, after a slight repast, and reached the place of their destination before ten o'clock at night.

Peregrine, instead of alighting at the garrison, rode straightway to his father's house; and no person appearing to receive him, not even a servant to take care of his chaise, he dismounted without assistance. Being sollowed by his two friends, he advanced into the hall, where perceiving a bell-rope, he made immediate application to it, in such a manner as brought a couple of sootmen into his presence. After having reprimanded them, with a stern look, for their neglect in point of attendance, he commanded them to shew him into an apartment; and as they seemed unwilling to yield obedience to his orders, asked if they did not belong to the family?

One of them, who took upon himself the office of spokesman, replied with a sullen air, that they had been in the service of old Mr Pickle, and now that he was dead, thought themselves bound to obey no body but their lady and her son Mr Gamaliel. This declaration had scarce proceeded from his mouth, when our hero gave them to understand, that since they were not dis-

posed to own any other master, they must change their quarters immediately. He ordered them to decamp without further preparation; and as they still continued restiff, they were kicked out of doors by the captain and his friend Hatchway. Squire Gam, who overheard every thing that paffed, and was now more than ever inflamed with that rancour which he had fucked with his mother's milk, flew to the affiltance of his adherents, with a pistol in each hand, bellowing Thieves! thieves! with great vociferation, as if he had mistaken the business of the strangers, and actually believed himself in danger of being robbed. Under this pretence he discharged a piece at his brother, who luckily escaping the shot, closed with him in a moment, and wresting the other pistol from his gripe, turned him out into the courtyard to the consolation of his two dependants.

By this time Pipes and the two possilions had taken possession of the stable, without being opposed by the coachman and his deputy, who quietly submitted to the authority of their new so-vereign; but the noise of the pistol had alarmed Mrs Pickle, who running down stairs with the most frantic appearance, attended by two maids and the curate, who still maintained his place of chaplain and ghostly director in the family, would have assaulted our hero with her nails, had not she been-restrained by her attendants. Though they prevented her from using her hands, they could not hinder her from exercising her tongue,

which she wagged against him with all the virulence of malice. She asked, if he was come to butcher his brother, to insult his father's corpse, and triumph in her affliction; she bestowed upon him the epithets of spendthrist, jailbird, and unnatural russian; she begged pardon of God for having brought such a monster into the world, accused him of having brought his father's greyhairs with sorrow to the grave; and affirmed, that were he to touch the body, it would bleed at his approach.

Without pretending to refute the articles of this ridiculous charge, he allowed her to ring out her alarm; and then calmly replied, that if she did not quietly retire to her chamber, and behave as became a person in her present situation, he should insist upon her removing to another lodging without delay; for he was determined to be master in his own family. The lady, who, in all probability, expected that he would endeavour to appeafe her with all the tendernefs of filial fubmiffion, was fo much exasperated at his cavalier behaviour, that her constitution could not support the transports of her spirits; and she was carried off by her women in a fit, while the officious clergyman was difmissed after his pupil with all the circumstances of disgrace.

Our hero having thus made his quarters good, took possession of the best apartment in the house, and fent notice of his arrival to Mr Clover, who, with his wife, visited him in less than an hour,

and was not a little surprised to find him so suddenly fettled in his father's house. The meeting of Julia and her brother was extremely pathetic. She had always loved him with uncommon tenderness, and looked upon him as the ornament of her family; but she had heard of his extravagancies with regret, and though the confidered the stories that were circulated at his expence, as the malicious exaggerations of his mother and her darling fon, her apprehension had been grievoully alarmed by an account of his imprisonment and distress, which had been accidentally conveyed to that county by a gentleman from London, who had been formerly of his acquaintance: the could not, therefore, without the most tender emotions of joy, fee him, as it were, restored to his rightful inheritance, and re-established in that station of life which he thought he could fill with dignity and importance.

After their mutual expressions of affection, she retired to her mother's chamber, with a view to make a second offer of her service and attendance, which had been already rejected with scorn since her father's death; while Peregrine consulted his brother-in-law, about the affairs of the family, so far as they had fallen within his cognizance and observation.

Mr Clover told him, that tho' he was never favoured with the confidence of the defunct, he knew some of his intimates, who had been tampered with by Mrs Pickle, and even engaged to fecond the remonstrances by which she had often endeavoured to persuade her husband to settle his affairs by a formal will; but that he had from time to time evaded their importunities with furprifing excuses of procrastination that plainly appeared to be the refult of invention and design, far above the supposed pitch of his capacity; a circumstance from which Mr. Clover concluded, that the old gentleman imagined his life would not have been secure, had he once taken such a step as would have rendered it unnecessary to the independence of his fecond fon. He moreover observed, that, in consequence of this information, he no fooner heard of Mr Pickle's death, which happened at the club, than he went directly, with a lawyer to his house, before any cabal or conspiracy could be formed against the rightful heir; and, in presence of witnesses provided for the purpose, sealed up all the papers of the deceased, after the widow had, in the first transports of her forrow and vexation, fairly owned, that her husband had died intestate.

Peregrine was extremely well fatisfied with this intelligence, by which all his doubts were difpelled; and having cheerfully supped with his friends on a cold collation which his brother-in-law had brought in his chariot, they retired to rest in different chambers, after Julia had met with another repulse from her capricious mother, whose overslowing rage had now subsided into the former channel of calm inveteracy.

Next morning the house was supplied with some servants from the garrison, and preparations were made for the funeral of the deceased. Gam having taken lodgings in the neighbourhood, came with a chaise and cart to demand his mother, together with his own cloaths, and her personal effects.

Our hero, though he would not suffer him to enter the door, allowed his proposal to be communicated to the widow, who eagerly embraced the opportunity of removing, and was, with her own baggage, and that of her beloved son, conveyed to the place which he had prepared for her reception. Thither she was followed by her woman, who was desired by Peregrine to assure her mistress, that, until a regular provision could be settled upon her, she might command him, in point of money, or any other accommodation in his power.

### C H A P. CIV.

He performs the last offices to his father, and returns to London upon a very interesting design.

SUITS of mourning being provided for himfelf, his friends and adherents, and every other previous measure taken, suitable to the occasion, his father was interred, in a private manner, in the parish-church; and his papers being examined in presence of many persons of honour and integrity invited for that purpose, no will was found, or any other deed, in favour of the second son, though it appeared by the marriage-settlement, that the widow was entitled to a join-ture of five hundred pounds a year. The rest of his papers consisted of East-India bonds, South-sea annuities, mortgages, notes, and assignments, to the amount of sourscore thousand seven hundred and sixty pounds, exclusive of the house, plate, and furniture, horses, equipage, and cattle, with the garden, and park adjacent, to a very considerable extent.

This was a fum that even exceeded his expectation, and could not fail to entertain his fancy with the most agreeable ideas. He found himself immediately a man of vast consequence among his country neighbours, who vifited him with compliments of congratulation, and treated him with fuch respect as would have effectually spoiled any young man of his disposition, who had not the same advantages of experience as he had already purchased at a very extravagant price. Thus shielded with caution, he bore his prosperity with furprifing temperance; every body was charmed with his affability and moderation. When he made a circuit round the gentlemen of the diftrict, in order to repay the courtefy which he owed, he was careffed by them with uncommon affiduity, and advised to offer himself as a candidate for the county at the next election, which, they supposed, would soon happen, because the

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Present member was in a declining state of health. Nor did his person and address escape unheeded by the ladies, many of whom did not scruple to spread their attractions before him, with a view of captivating such a valuable prize; nay, such an impression did this legacy make upon a certain peer, who resided in this part of the country, that he cultivated Pickle's acquaintance with great eagerness, and, without circumlocution, offered to him in marriage his only daughter, with a very considerable fortune.

Our hero expressed himself, upon this occasion, as became a man of honour, fenfibility, and politeness; and frankly gave his lordship to understand, that his heart was already engaged. He was pleased with the opportunity of making fuch a facrifice to his passion for Emilia, which, by this time, inflamed his thoughts to fuch a degree of impatience, that he refolved to depart for London with all possible speed, and, for that purpose, industriously employed almost every hour of his time in regulating his domestic affairs. He paid off all his father's fervants, and hired others, at the recommendation of his fifter, who promifed to superintend his household in his ab-Tence : he advanced the first half-yearly payment of his mother's jointure; and as for his brother Gam, he gave him divers opportunities of acknowledging his faults, so as that he might have answered to his own conscience for taking any Step in his favour; but that young gentleman was

not yet sufficiently humbled by missortune, and not only forbore to make any overtures of peace, but also took all occasions to slander the conduct and revile the person of our hero, being, in this practice, comforted and abetted by his righteous mamma.

Every thing being thus fettled for the present, the triumvirate fet out on their return to town, in the same manner with that in which they had arrived in the country, except in this small variation, that Hatchway's chaife-companion was now the valet de chambre refitted, instead of Pipes, who, with another lacquey, attended them on horseback. When they had performed two thirds of their way to London, they chanced to overtake a country fquire, on his return from a visit to one of his neighbours, who had entertained him with fuch hospitality, that (as the lieutenant observed) he rolled himself almost gunwale to, at every motion of his horfe, which was a fine hunter: and when the chaifes passed him at full speed, he set up the sportman's hollow, in a voice that founded like a French horn, clapping fours to Sorrel, at the same time, in order to keep up with the pace of the machine.

Peregrine, who was animated with an uncommon flow of spirits, ordered his possilion to proceed more softly; and entered into conversation with the stranger, touching the make and mettle of his horse, upon which he descanted with so much learning, that the squire was assonished at

his knowledge. When they approached his habitation, he invited the young gentleman and his company to halt, and drink a bottle of his ale; and was so pressing in his solicitation, that they complied with his request. He accordingly conducted them through a spacious avenue, that extended as far as the highway, to the gate of a sarge chateau, of a most noble and venerable appearance, which induced them to alight and view the apartments, contrary to their first intention of drinking a glass of his October at the door.

The rooms were every way fuitable to the magnificence of the outfide, and our hero imagined they had made a tour through the whole fweep, when the landlord gave him to understand, that they had not yet feen the best apartment of the house, and immediately led them into a spacious dining-room, which Peregrine did not enter without giving manifest signs of uncommon aftonishment. The pannels all round were coyered with portraits, at full length, by Vandyke; and not one of them appeared without a ridiculous tye-periwig, in the style of those that usually hang over the shops of two-penny barbers. The strait boots in which the figures had been originally painted, and the other circumstances of attitude and drapery, so inconsistent with this monstrous furniture of the head, exhibited such a ludicrous appearance, that Pickle's wonder, in a little time, gave way to his mirth, and he was seized with a violent fit of laughter, which had well nigh deprived him of his breath.

The squire, half pleased and half offended at this expression of ridicule, "I know (said he) what makes you laugh fo woefully: you think it strange to zee my vorefathers booted and spurred with huge three-tailed periwigs on their pates. the truth of the matter is this; I could not bide to zee the pictures of my vamily with a parcel of loofe hair hanging about their eyes, like zo many colts; and zo I employed a painter vellow from London to clap decent periwigs upon their skulls, at the rate of vive shillings a-head, and offered him three shillings a-piece to furnish each with a handzome pair of shoes and stockings: but the rascal, thinking I must have 'em done at any price after their heads were covered, haggled with me for your shillings a picture; and zo, rather than be imposed upon, I turned him off, and shall let 'em stand as they are, 'till zome more reasonable brother of the brush comes round the country.

Pickle commended his resolution, though, in his heart, he blessed himself from such a barbarous Goth; and, after they had dispatched two or three bottles of his beer, they proceeded on their journey, and arrived in town about eleven as night.

#### C H A P. the Laft.

He enjoys an interview with Emilia, and makes himself ample amends for all the mortifications of his life.

ODFREY, who had taken leave of his fif-I ter, on pretence of making a short excursion with Peregrine, whose health required the enjoyment of fresh air after his long confinement, fent a message to her that same night, announcing his arrival, and giving her notice that he would breakfast with her next morning; when he and our hero, who had dreffed himfelf for the purpofe, taking a hackney coach, repaired to her lodging, and were introduced into a parlour adjoining to that in which the tea-table was fet. Here they had not waited many minutes when they heard the found of feet coming down stairs; upon which our here's heart began to beat the alarm. He concealed himself behind the screen by the direction of his friend, whose ears being faluted with Sophy's voice from the next room, he flew into it with great ardour, and enjoyed upon her lips the fweet transports of a meeting fo unexpected; for he had left her in her father's house at Windsor.

Amidst these emotions, he had almost forgot the situation of Peregrine; when Emilia, assuming an enchanting air, "Is not this (said she) a most provoking scene to a young woman, like me, who am doomed to wear the willow by the strange caprice of my lover? Upon my word, brother, you have done me infinite prejudice, in promoting this jaunt with my obstinate correspondent; who, I suppose, is so ravished with this transient glimpfe of liberty, that he will never be persuaded to incur unnecessary confinement for the future." " My dear fifter, (replied the captain, tauntingly) your own pride fet him the example; so you must e'en stand to the consequence of his imitation." "Tis a hard cafe, however, (answered the fair offender) that I should fuffer all my life by one venial trespass. Heigh ho! who would imagine that a fprightly girl, fuch as I, with ten thousand pounds, should go a begging? I have a good mind to marry the next person that asks me the question, in order to be revenged on this unyielding humourist. Did the dear fellow discover no inclination to see me. in all the term of his releasement? Well, if ever I can catch the fugitive again, he shall sing in his. cage for life."

It is impossible to convey to the reader a just idea of Peregrine's transports, while he over-heard this declaration; which was no sooner pronounced, than, unable to resist the impetuosity of his passion, he sprung from his lurking place, exclaiming, "Here I surrender;" and rushing into her presence, was so dazzled with her beauty that his speech failed; he was fixed, like a statue,

in admiration. Indeed, she was now in the sull bloom of her charms, and it was nearly impossible to look upon her without emotion. What then must have been the extasy of our youth, whose passion was whetted with all the incitements which could stimulate the human heart! The ladies screamed with surprise at his appearance, and Emilia underwent such agitation as slushed every charm with irresistible energy: her cheeks glowed with a most delicate suffusion, and her bosom heaved with such bewitching undulation, that the cambric could not conceal or contain the snowy hemispheres that rose like a vission of paradise to his view.

While he was almost fainting with unutterable delight, she seemed ready to sink under the tumults of tenderness and confusion; when our hero, perceiving her condition, obeyed the impulse of his love, and circled the charmer in his arms without suffering the least frown or symptom of displeasure. Not all the pleasures of his life had amounted to the inestable joy of this embrace, in which he continued for some minutes totally entranced. He sastened upon her pouting-lips, with all the eagerness of rapture; and, while his brain seemed to whirl round with transport, exclaimed in a delirium of bliss, "Heaven and earth! this is too much to bear."

His imagination was accordingly relieved, and his attention in some measure divided by the in-

terpolition of Sophy, who kindly chid him for his having overlooked his old friends: thus accosted, he quitted his delicious armful, and, faluting Mrs Gauntlet, asked pardon for his neglect; observing, that such rudeness was excuseable, confidering the long and unhappy exile which he had fuffered from the jewel of his foul. Then turning to Emila, "I am come, Madam, (faid he) to claim the performance of your promife, which I can produce under your own fair hand: you may, therefore, lay aside all superfluous ceremony and shyness; and crown my happinels without further delay: for, upon my foul! my thoughts are wound up to the last pitch of expectation, and I shall certainly run distracted if I am doomed to any term of probation."

His mistress, having by this time recollected herself, replied with a most exhilarating smile, "I ought to punish you for your obstinacy, with the mortification of a twelvemonth's trial; but 'tis dangerous to tamper with an admirer of your disposition, and therefore, I think, I must make sure of you while it is in my power." "You are willing, then, to take me for better for worse, in presence of heaven and these witnesses?" cried Peregrine, kneeling, and applying her hand to his lips. At this interrogation her features softened into an amazing expression of condescending love; and while she darted a side glance, that thrilled to his marrow, and heaved a sigh more soft than Zephyr's balmy wing, her answer was,

"Why—ay—and heaven grant me patience to bear the humours of fuch a yoke-fellow." "And may the same powers (replied the youth) grant me life and opportunity to manifest the immensity of my love. Mean-while, I have eighty thousand pounds, which shall be laid immediately in your lap."

So faying, he fealed the contract upon her lips, and explained the mystery of his last words, which had begun to operate upon the wonder of the two sisters. Sophy was agreeably surprised with the account of his good fortune: nor was it, in all probability, unacceptable to the lovely Emilia; though, from this information, she took an opportunity to upbraid her admirer with the inflexibility of his pride, which, (she scrupled not to say,) would have bassled all the suggestions of his passion, had not it been gratified by this providential event.

Matters being thus happily matured, the lover begged that immediate recourse might be had to the church, and his happiness ascertained before night. But the bride objected, with great vehemence, to such precipitation, being desirous of her mother's presence at the ceremony; and she was seconded in her opinion by her brother's wife. Peregrine, maddening with desire, assaulted her with the most earnest intreaties, representing, that, as her mother's consent was already obtained, there were surely no necessity for a delay that must infallibly make a dangerous impresent

fion upon his brain and constitution. He fell at her feet, in all the agony of impatience; swore that his life and intellects would actually be in jeopardy by her refusal; and when she attempted to argue him out of his demand, began to rave with such extravagance, that Sophy was frightened into conviction; and Godfrey enforcing the remonstrances of his friend, the amiable Emilia was teized into compliance.

After breakfast the bridegroom and his companion set out for the Commons for a licence, having first agreed upon the house at which the ceremony should be performed, in the lodgings of the bride : and the permission being obtained, they found means to engage a clergyman, who undertook to attend them at their own time and place. Then a ring was purchased for the occafion; and they went in fearch of the lieutenant, with whom they dined at a tavern, and not only made him acquainted with the steps they had taken, but defired that he would stand god-father to the bride: an employment which lack accepted with demonstrations of particular satisfaction: 'till chancing to look into the street, and feeing Cadwallader approach the door, in confequence of a message they had sent to him by Pipes, he declined the office in favour of the fenior; who was accordingly ordained for that purpole, on the supposition, that such a mark of regard might facilitate his concurrence with a match, which otherwife, he would certainly oppose, as he was a professed enemy to wedlock, and, as yet, igno-

rant of Peregrine's intention.

After having congratulated Pickle upon his fuccession, and shook his two friends by the hand, the misanthrope asked whose mare was dead, that he was summoned in such a plaguy hurry from his dinner, which he had been sain to gobble up like a cannibal. Our hero gave him to understand, that they had made an appointment to drink tea with two agreeable ladies, and were unwilling that he should lose the opportunity of enjoying an entertainment which he loved so much. Crabtree, shrivelling up his sace, like an autumn leas, at this intimation, cursed his complaisance, and swore they should keep their assignation without him; for he and letchery had shook hands many years ago.

The bridegroom, however, likening him unto an old coachman, who still delights in the smack of the whip, and dropping some flattering hints of his manhood, even at these years, he was gradually prevailed upon to accompany them to the place of rendezvous; where, being ushered into a dining-room, they had not waited three minutes, when they were joined by the parson who had observed the hour with great punctuality.

This gentleman no sooner entered the room, than Cadwallader, in a whisper to Gauntlet, asked, if that was not the cock-bawd? and, before the captain could make any reply, "What an unconscionable whoremaster the rogue is! (said he,)

fearce discharged from confinement, and sweetened with a little fresh air, than he wenches with
a pinp in canonicals in his pay." The door again opened, and Emilia broke in upon them,
with such dignity of mien, and divinity of aspect,
as inspired every spectator with astonishment and
admiration. The lieutenant, who had not seen
her since her charms were ripened into such perfection, expressed his wonder and approbation in
an exclamation of "Add's zocks! what a glorious
galley!" and the misanthrope's visage was instantly metamorphosed into the face of a mountain-goat. He licked his lips instinctively, snussed the air, and squinted with a most horrible obliquity of vision.

The bride and her fifter being feated, and Hatchway having renewed his acquaintance with the former, who recognized him with particular civility, Peregrine withdrew into another apartment with his friend Crabtree, to whom he imparted the defign of this meeting, which the latter no fooner understood, than he attempted to retreat, without making any other reply than that of "Pshaw! rot your matrimony! can't you put your neck in the noofe, without my being a wit-

nels of your folly?"

The young gentleman, in order to vanquish this aversion, stepped to the door of the next room, and begged the favour of speaking with Emilia, to whom he introduced the testy old batchelor, as one of his particular friends, who de-

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fired to have the honour of giving her away. The bewitching smile with which she received his salute, and granted his request, at once overcame the disapprobation of the misanthrope, who with a relaxation in his countenance, which had never been perceived before that instant, thanked her in the most polite terms for such an agreeable mark of distinction. He accordingly led her into the dining-room, where the ceremony was performed without delay; and after the husband had afferted his prerogative on her lips, the whole company saluted her by the name of Mrs Pickle.

I shall leave the sensible reader to judge what passed, at this juncture, within the bosoms of the new married couple: Peregrine's heart was fired with inexpressible ardour and impatience; while the transports of the bride were mingled with a dash of distidence and apprehension. Gauntlet faw it would be too much for both, to bear their present tantalizing situation 'till night, without some amusement to diverge their thoughts; and therefore proposed to pass part of the evening at the public entertainment in Marybone gardens, which were at that time frequented by the best company in town. The scheme was relished by the discreet Sophy, who saw the meaning of the proposal, and the bride submitted to the persuafion of her fifter; fo that, after tea, two coaches were called, and Peregrine was forcibly feparated from his charmer during the conveyance.

The new married couple and their company

having made shift to spend the evening, and supped on a slight collation in one of the boxes, Peregrine's patience was almost quite exhausted; and taking Godfrey aside, he imparted his intention to withdraw in private, from the sea-wit of his friend Hatchway, who would, otherwise, retard his bliss, with unseasonable impediments, which, at present, he could not possibly bear. Gauntlet, who sympathized with his impatience, undertook to intoxicate the lieutenant with bumpers to the joy of the bride, and, in the mean time, desired Sophy to retire with his sister under the auspices of Cadwallader, who promised to squire them home.

The ladies were accordingly conducted to the coach, and Jack proposed to the captain, that, for the fake of the joke, the bridegroom should be plied with liquor, in such a manner as would effectually disable him from enjoying the fruits of his good fortune for one night at least. Gauntlet feemed to relish the scheme, and they prevailed upon Pickle to accompany them to a certain tavern, on pretence of drinking a farewell glass to a fingle life; there the bottle was circulated 'till Hatchway's brain began to fuffer innovation. As he had fecured our hero's hat and fword, he felt no apprehension of an elopement, which, however, was effected; and the youth halfened on the wings of love to the arms of his enchanting bride. He found Crabtree in a parlour waiting for his return, and disposed to entertain him

with a lecture upon temperance; to which he paid very little attention, but ringing for Emilia's maid, defired to know if her mistress was a bed. Being answered in the affirmative, he fent her up stairs to announce his arrival, undressed himself to a loose gown and slippers, and wishing the misanthrope good-night, after having desired to see him next day, followed in person the delicious scene, where he found her elegantly dished out, the sairest daughter of chastity and love.

When he approached, the was overwhelmed with confusion, and hid her lovely face from his transporting view. Mrs Gauntlet, seeing his eyes kindled at the occasion, kissed her charming sister, who, throwing her snowy arms about her neck, would have detained her in the room, had not Peregrine gently disengaged her confidente from her embrace, and conducted her trembling to the door; which having bolted and barricadoed, he profited by his good fortune, and his felicity was perfect.

Next day he rose about noon, and sound his three friends assembled, when he learned that Jack had fallen in his own snare, and been obliged to lie in the same tavern where he fell: a circumstance of which he was so much ashamed, that Peregrine and his wife escaped many jokes, which he would have certainly cracked, had he not lain under the imputation of this disgrace. In half an hour after he came down, Mrs Pickle appeared with Sophy, blushing like Aurora or the god-

dess of health, and sending forth emanations of beauty unparalleled: she was complimented upon her change of situation by all present, and by none more warmly than by old Crabtree, who declared himself so well satisfied with his friend's fortune, as to be almost reconciled to that institution against which he had declaimed during the

best part of his life.

An express was immediately dispatched to Mrs Gauntlet with an account of her daughter's marriage; a town house was hired, and an handsome equipage fet up, in which the new married pair appeared at all public places, to the aftonishment of our adventurer's fair-weather friends, and the admiration of all the world; for, in point of figure, fuch another couple was not to be found in the whole united kingdoms. Envy despaired, and detraction was struck dumb, when our hero's new accession of fortune was consigned to the celebration of public fame: Emilia attracted the notice of all observers, from the pert templer to the Sovereign himself, who was pleased to beflow encomiums upon the excellence of her beauty. Many persons of consequence, who had dropped the acquaintance of Peregrine in the beginning of his decline, now made open efforts to cultivate his friendship anew: but he discouraged all these advances with the most mortifying difdain; and one day, when the nobleman whom he had formerly obliged, came up to him in the drawing-room, with the falutation of "Your

fervant, Mr Pickle;" he eyed him with a look of ineffable contempt, faying, "I suppose your lordship is mistaken in your man," and turned his head another way, in presence of the whole court.

When he had made a circuit round all the places frequented by the beau-monde, to the utter confusion of those against whom his resentment was kindled; paid off his debts, and fettled his moneymatters in town; Hatchway was dismissed to the country, in order to prepare for the reception of his fair Emilia. In a few days after his departure, the whole company (Cadwallader himfelf included) fet out for his father's house, and, in their way, took up Mrs Gauntlet the mother, who was fincerely rejoiced to fee our hero in the capacity of her fon-in-law. From her habitation they proceeded homewards at an easy pace, and, amidst the acclamations of the whole parish, entered their own house, where Emilia was received in the most tender manner, by Mr Clover's wife, who had provided every thing for her ease and accommodation, and, next day, furrendered unto her the management of ber own household-affairs.

### FINIS.



